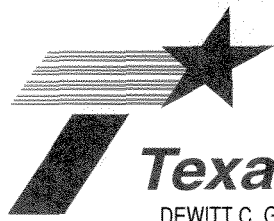


APPENDIX B
AGENCY COORDINATION

PRE-SCOPING

The following letters were distributed to potential cooperating and participating agencies during Pre-Scoping, and include:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
- National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office
- Texas Coastal Coordination Council
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Texas General Land Office
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District
- Eighth Coast Guard District, Bridge Section
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Corpus Christi Ecological Services Office
- City of Corpus Christi
- Port of Corpus Christi Authority



Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

February 24, 2011

Dr. Alfredo Armendariz
Regional Administrator, Region 6
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Avenue
Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Dear Dr. Armendariz:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), intends to reinstate the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed transportation improvements on US 181 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095), which have the potential to affect the existing Harbor Bridge. The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of US 181 corridor improvements, as currently defined, are to improve safety, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and increase roadway capacity. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements of various environmental regulations, including the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Civil Rights Act. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will be formally invited to become a Cooperating and/or Participating Agency with TxDOT in the development of the EIS at a later date. With this letter, TxDOT is initiating informal coordination in advance of the formal project scoping process which is planned for Spring 2011. This informal coordination regarding the project is intended to aid in the development of the Draft Coordination Plan, as called for in SAFETEA-LU, and provide for a time-efficient, formal EIS Scoping process. To gauge expectations for the EPA's formal participation in the project, and to gather input for development of the Draft Coordination Plan, TxDOT requests that the EPA provide responses to the following questions:

Background and Primary Contact

TxDOT would like to request a primary contact from the EPA for this project.

1. Is your agency familiar with the USDOT requirements under SAFETEA-LU which TxDOT and FHWA will be following?
2. Will the assigned EPA contact be available for routine project meetings involving air quality, water quality, and environmental justice, as well as other project issues?
3. If so, how often and in what format (in-person or via conference-call) will the EPA contact be able to meet?

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Review and Comment

Under SAFETEA-LU certain NEPA-related documents will be produced and TxDOT intends to provide the EPA with an opportunity to participate in the development of these documents as well as to review draft and final versions. SAFETEA-LU establishes a maximum review and comment period of 30 days for the Draft Coordination Plan (which will include the Need and Purpose for the proposed project as well as the range of reasonable alternatives proposed for study) and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings. For the Draft EIS, SAFETEA-LU provides for a maximum review and comment period of 60 days.

1. During the formal EIS Scoping process to coincide with the future publication of the Notice of Intent to initiate the project, should TxDOT expect that your agency would review and provide comments on the Draft Coordination Plan and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings within 30 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?
2. Do you see any reason why your agency would not be able to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS within 60 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?

Alternatives Analysis and Methodology

As stated, this EIS project, which has been under study since 2001, is intended to be reinitiated under SAFETEA-LU. As such, a number of alternatives have been developed previously and are anticipated to be among the range of reasonable alternatives to be studied in the Draft EIS. A project map showing these preliminary alternatives is attached to this letter. A no-build alternative will also be studied.

1. Does your agency have informal feedback to provide regarding the alternatives shown on the attached map? If so, please provide your feedback.
2. Do you anticipate that during the formal EIS Scoping process your agency might propose that additional alternatives be studied as well?
3. For the analysis of the alternatives, would your agency expect TxDOT to follow a methodology or provide a level of detail outlined in anything other than FHWA's guidance for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?


Thank you very much for taking the time to be part of this informal pre-scoping process. We appreciate your cooperation and hope that early coordination will make the formal process as efficient as possible. Please provide your responses to the above questions to TxDOT (Vicki Crnich) verbally, by email, or in writing as soon as possible, and be advised that your agency will be given additional opportunities to participate during the formal EIS Scoping phase.

We anticipate that project staff will contact your office shortly after sending this letter as a means to gather timely feedback as well as to schedule a conference call or in-person meeting to discuss informally the content of this letter and other project details. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dianna F. Noble". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dianna" being more prominent.

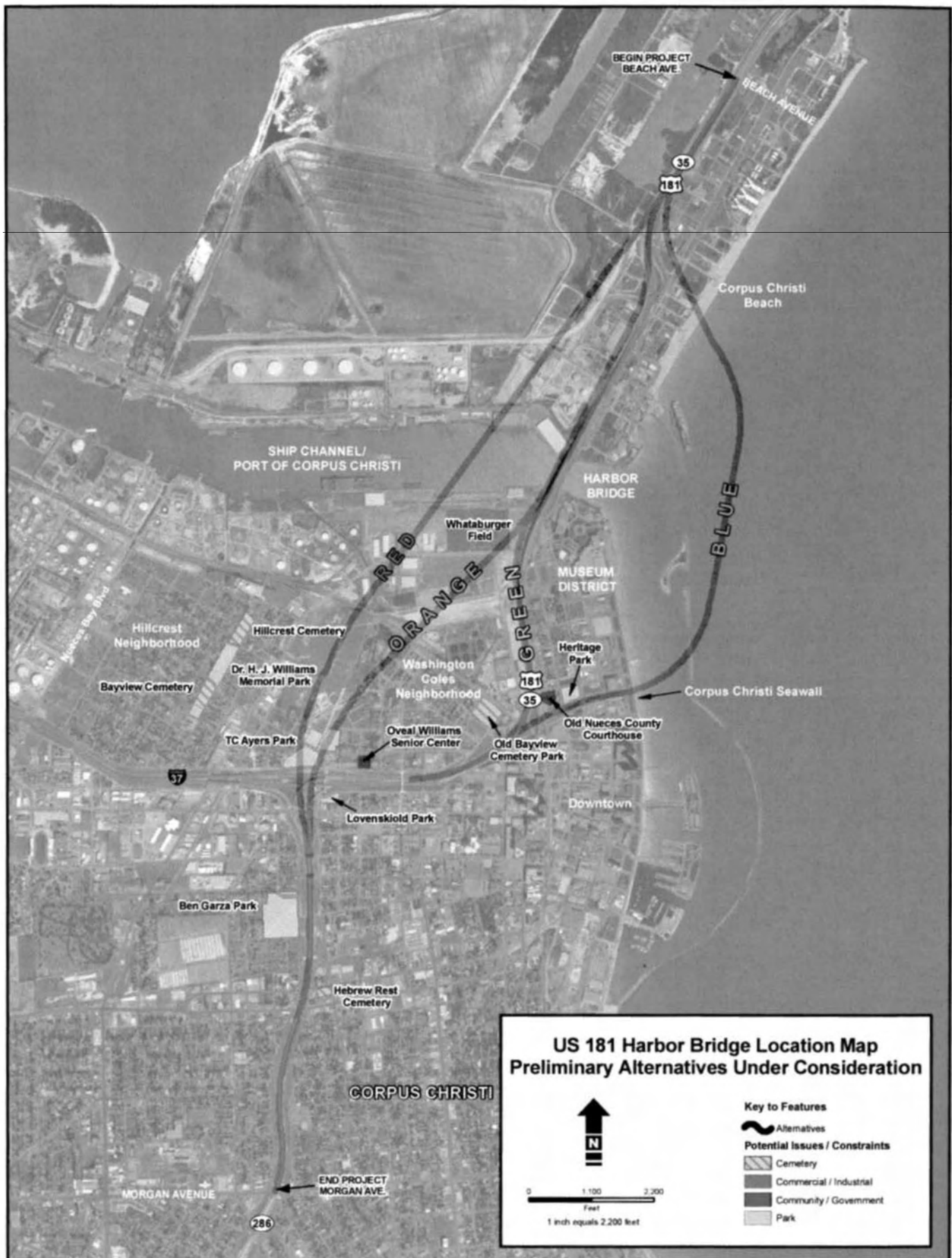
Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

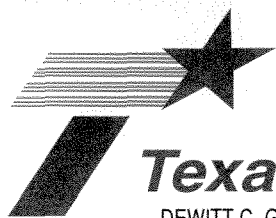
Enclosures: Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850





Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

February 24, 2011

Dr. Roger Zimmerman,
National Marine Fisheries Service
Southeast Regional Office
4700 Avenue U
Galveston, TX 77551

Dear Dr. Zimmerman,

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), intends to reinstate the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed transportation improvements on US 181 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095), which have the potential to affect the existing Harbor Bridge. The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of US 181 corridor improvements, as currently defined, are to improve safety, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and increase roadway capacity. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements of Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006 and the potential for the proposed project to affect marine fisheries. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will be formally invited to become a Cooperating and/or Participating Agency with TxDOT in the development of the EIS at a later date. With this letter, TxDOT is initiating informal coordination in advance of the formal project scoping process which is planned for Spring 2011. This informal coordination regarding the project is intended to aid in the development of the Draft Coordination Plan, as called for in SAFETEA-LU, and provide for a time-efficient, formal EIS Scoping process. To gauge expectations for the NMFS's formal participation in the project, and to gather input for development of the Draft Coordination Plan, TxDOT requests that the NMFS provide responses to the following questions:

Background and Primary Contact

TxDOT anticipates that Heather Young will be the primary contact person for the NMFS and Jason Rottner will be the primary contact for endangered species issues.

1. Is your agency familiar with the USDOT requirements under SAFETEA-LU which TxDOT and FHWA will be following?
2. Will the NMFS contact(s) be available for routine project meetings involving your agency's jurisdiction as well as other project issues?
3. If so, how often and in what format (in-person or via conference-call) will the NMFS contact(s) be able to meet?

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Review and Comment

Under SAFETEA-LU certain NEPA-related documents will be produced and TxDOT intends to provide the NMFS with an opportunity to participate in the development of these documents as well as to review draft and final versions. SAFETEA-LU establishes a maximum review and comment period of 30 days for the Draft Coordination Plan (which will include the Need and Purpose for the proposed project as well as the range of reasonable alternatives proposed for study) and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings. For the Draft EIS, SAFETEA-LU provides for a maximum review and comment period of 60 days.

1. During the formal EIS Scoping process to coincide with the future publication of the Notice of Intent to initiate the project, should TxDOT expect that your agency would review and provide comments on the Draft Coordination Plan and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings within 30 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?
2. Do you see any reason why your agency would not be able to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS within 60 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?

Alternatives Analysis and Methodology

As stated, this EIS project, which has been under study since 2001, is intended to be reinitiated under SAFETEA-LU. As such, a number of alternatives have been developed previously and are anticipated to be among the range of reasonable alternatives to be studied in the Draft EIS. A project map showing these preliminary alternatives is attached to this letter. A no-build alternative will also be studied.

1. Does your agency have informal feedback to provide regarding the alternatives shown on the attached map? If so, please provide your feedback.
2. Do you anticipate that during the formal EIS Scoping process your agency might propose that additional alternatives be studied as well?
3. For the analysis of the alternatives, would your agency expect TxDOT to follow a methodology or provide a level of detail outlined in anything other than FHWA's guidance for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

Thank you very much for taking the time to be part of this informal pre-scoping process. We appreciate your cooperation and hope that early coordination will make the formal process as efficient as possible. Please provide your responses to the above questions to TxDOT (Vicki Crnich) verbally, by email, or in writing as soon as possible, and be advised that your agency will be given additional opportunities to participate during the formal EIS Scoping phase.

We anticipate that project staff will contact your office shortly after sending this letter as a means to gather timely feedback as well as to schedule a conference call or in-person meeting to discuss informally the content of this letter and other project details. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dianna F. Noble". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dianna" being more prominent.

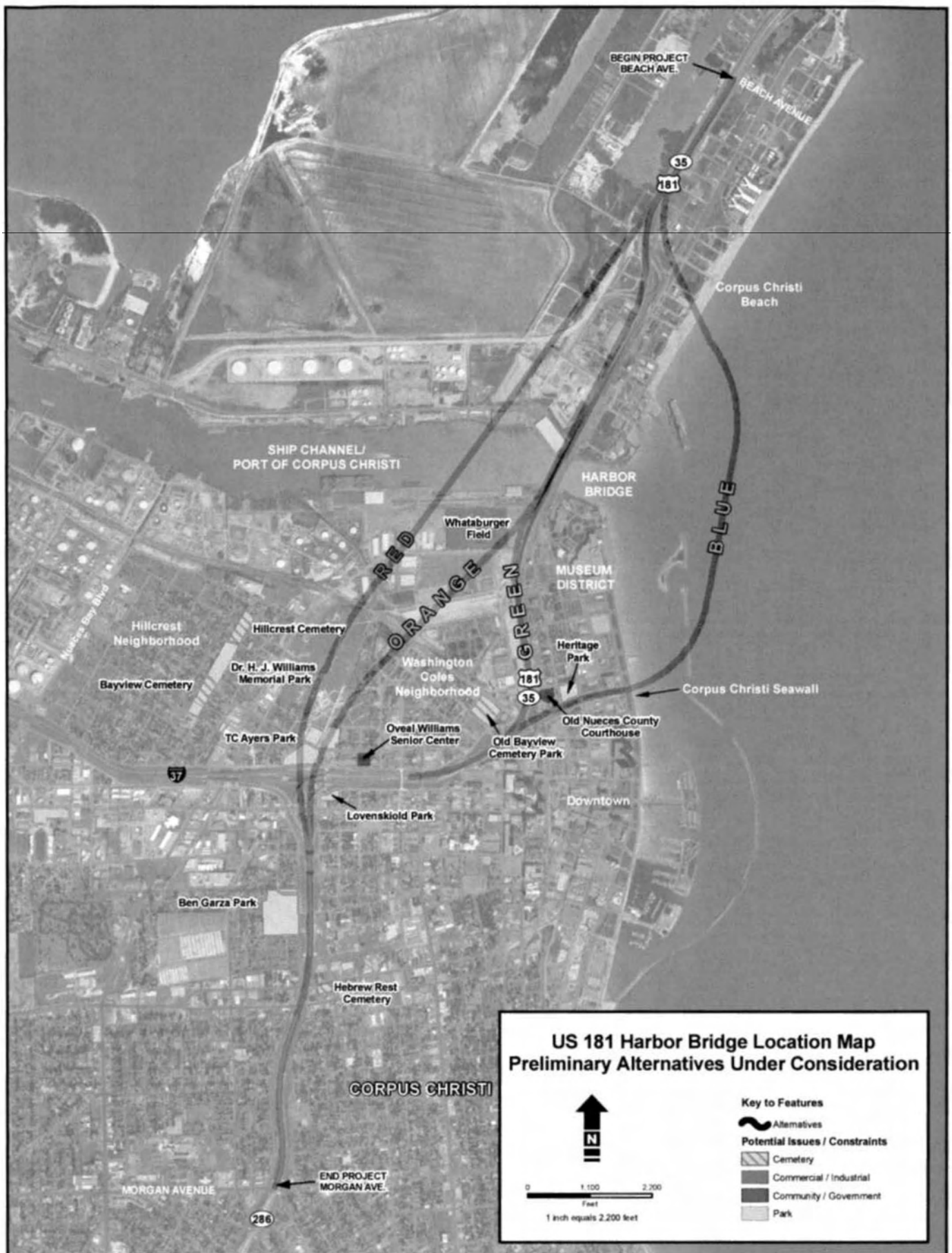
Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

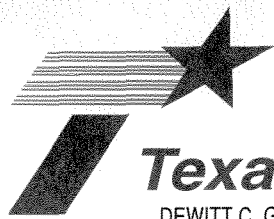
Enclosures: Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850





Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

February 24, 2011

Ms. Helen Young
Deputy Commissioner, Coastal Resources
Texas Coastal Coordination Council
Texas General Land Office
P.O. Box 12873
Austin, TX 78711-2873

Dear Ms. Young:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), intends to reinstate the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed transportation improvements on US 181 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095), which have the potential to affect the existing Harbor Bridge. The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of US 181 corridor improvements, as currently defined, are to improve safety, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and increase roadway capacity. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the potential for the proposed project to affect coastal resources and the Coastal Management Plan. The Texas Coastal Coordination Council (TCCC) will be formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS at a later date. With this letter, TxDOT is initiating informal coordination in advance of the formal project scoping process which is planned for Spring 2011. This informal coordination regarding the project is intended to aid in the development of the Draft Coordination Plan, as called for in SAFETEA-LU, and provide for a time-efficient, formal EIS Scoping process. To gauge expectations for the TCCC's formal participation in the project, and to gather input for development of the Draft Coordination Plan, TxDOT requests that the TCCC provide responses to the following questions:

Background and Primary Contact

TxDOT anticipates that Kathryn Zultner will be the primary contact person for the TCCC.

1. Is your agency familiar with the USDOT requirements under SAFETEA-LU which TxDOT and FHWA will be following?
2. Will Ms. Zultner be available for routine project meetings involving your jurisdiction as well as other project issues?
3. If so, how often and in what format (in-person or via conference-call) will Ms. Zultner be able to meet?

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Review and Comment

Under SAFETEA-LU there are certain NEPA-related documents that will be produced and TxDOT intends to provide the TCCC with an opportunity to participate in the development of these documents as well as to review draft and final versions. SAFETEA-LU establishes a maximum review and comment period of 30 days for the Draft Coordination Plan (which will include the Need and Purpose for the proposed project as well as the range of reasonable alternatives proposed for study) and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings. For the Draft EIS, SAFETEA-LU provides for a maximum review and comment period of 60 days.

1. During the formal EIS Scoping process to coincide with the future publication of the Notice of Intent to initiate the project, should TxDOT expect that your agency would review and provide comments on the Draft Coordination Plan and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings within 30 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?
2. Do you see any reason why your agency would not be able to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS within 60 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?

Alternatives Analysis and Methodology

As stated, this EIS project, which has been under study since 2001, is intended to be reinitiated under SAFETEA-LU. As such, a number of alternatives have been developed previously and are anticipated to be among the range of reasonable alternatives to be studied in the Draft EIS. A project map showing these preliminary alternatives is attached to this letter. A no-build alternative will also be studied.

1. Does your agency have informal feedback to provide regarding the alternatives shown on the attached map? If so, please provide your feedback.
2. Do you anticipate that during the formal EIS Scoping process your agency might propose that additional alternatives be studied as well?
3. For the analysis of the alternatives, would your agency expect TxDOT to follow a methodology or provide a level of detail outlined in anything other than FHWA's guidance for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

Thank you very much for taking the time to be part of this informal pre-scoping process. We appreciate your cooperation and hope that early coordination will make the formal process as efficient as possible. Please provide your responses to the above questions to TxDOT (Vicki Crnich) verbally, by email, or in writing as soon as possible, and be advised that your agency will be given additional opportunities to participate during the formal EIS Scoping phase.

We anticipate that project staff will contact your office shortly after sending this letter as a means to gather timely feedback as well as to schedule a conference call or in-person meeting to discuss informally the content of this letter and other project details. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dianna F. Noble". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dianna" being more prominent than the last name "Noble".

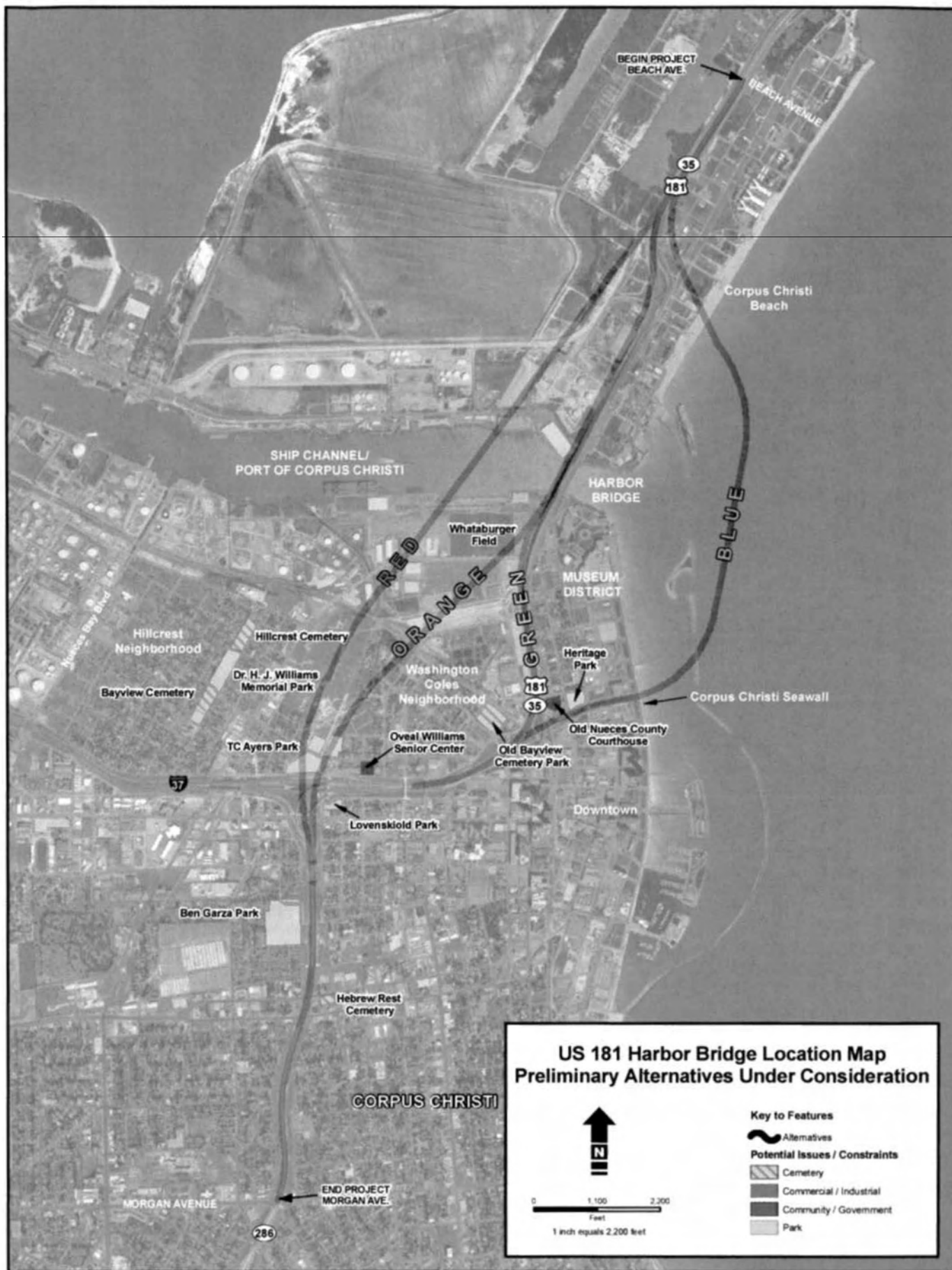
Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

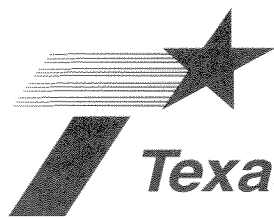
Enclosures: Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850





Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

February 24, 2011

Mr. Mark R. Vickery
Executive Director
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Dear Mr. Vickery:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), intends to reinstate the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed transportation improvements on US 181 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095), which have the potential to affect the existing Harbor Bridge. The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of US 181 corridor improvements, as currently defined, are to improve safety, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and increase roadway capacity. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements of the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act, and as the designated state representative for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will be formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS at a later date. With this letter, TxDOT is initiating informal coordination in advance of the formal project scoping process which is planned for Spring 2011. This informal coordination regarding the project is intended to aid in the development of the Draft Coordination Plan, as called for in SAFETEA-LU, and provide for a time-efficient, formal EIS Scoping process. To gauge expectations for the TCEQ's formal participation in the project, and to gather input for development of the Draft Coordination Plan, TxDOT requests that the TCEQ provide responses to the following questions:

Background and Primary Contact

TxDOT anticipates that Tangela Niemann will be the primary contact person for the TCEQ and that specific project reviewer(s) will be assigned by resource.

1. Is your agency familiar with the USDOT requirements under SAFETEA-LU which TxDOT and FHWA will be following?
2. Will the assigned contact(s) be available for routine project meetings involving air quality and water quality as well as other project issues?
3. If so, how often and in what format (in-person or via conference-call) will the assigned contact(s) be able to meet?

Review and Comment

Under SAFETEA-LU there are certain NEPA-related documents that will be produced and TxDOT intends to provide the TCEQ with an opportunity to participate in the development of these documents as well as to review draft and final versions. SAFETEA-LU establishes a maximum review and comment period of 30 days for the Draft Coordination Plan (which will include the Need and Purpose for the proposed project as well as the range of reasonable alternatives proposed for study) and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings. For the Draft EIS, SAFETEA-LU provides for a maximum review and comment period of 60 days.

1. During the formal EIS Scoping process to coincide with the future publication of the Notice of Intent to initiate the project, should TxDOT expect that your agency would review and provide comments on the Draft Coordination Plan and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings within 30 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?
2. Do you see any reason why your agency would not be able to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS within 60 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?

Alternatives Analysis and Methodology

As stated, this EIS project, which has been under study since 2001, is intended to be reinitiated under SAFETEA-LU. As such, a number of alternatives have been developed previously and are anticipated to be among the range of reasonable alternatives to be studied in the Draft EIS. A project map showing these preliminary alternatives is attached to this letter. A no-build alternative will also be studied.

1. Does your agency have informal feedback to provide regarding the alternatives shown on the attached map? If so, please provide your feedback.
2. Do you anticipate that during the formal EIS Scoping process your agency might propose that additional alternatives be studied as well?
3. For the analysis of the alternatives, would your agency expect TxDOT to follow a methodology or provide a level of detail outlined in anything other than FHWA's guidance for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

Thank you very much for taking the time to be part of this informal pre-scoping process. We appreciate your cooperation and hope that early coordination will make the formal process as efficient as possible. Please provide your responses to the above questions to TxDOT (Vicki Crnich) verbally, by email, or in writing as soon as possible, and be advised that your agency will be given additional opportunities to participate during the formal EIS Scoping phase.

We anticipate that project staff will contact your office shortly after sending this letter as a means to gather timely feedback as well as to schedule a conference call or in-person meeting to discuss informally the content of this letter and other project details. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dianna F. Noble". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dianna" being more prominent than the last name "Noble".

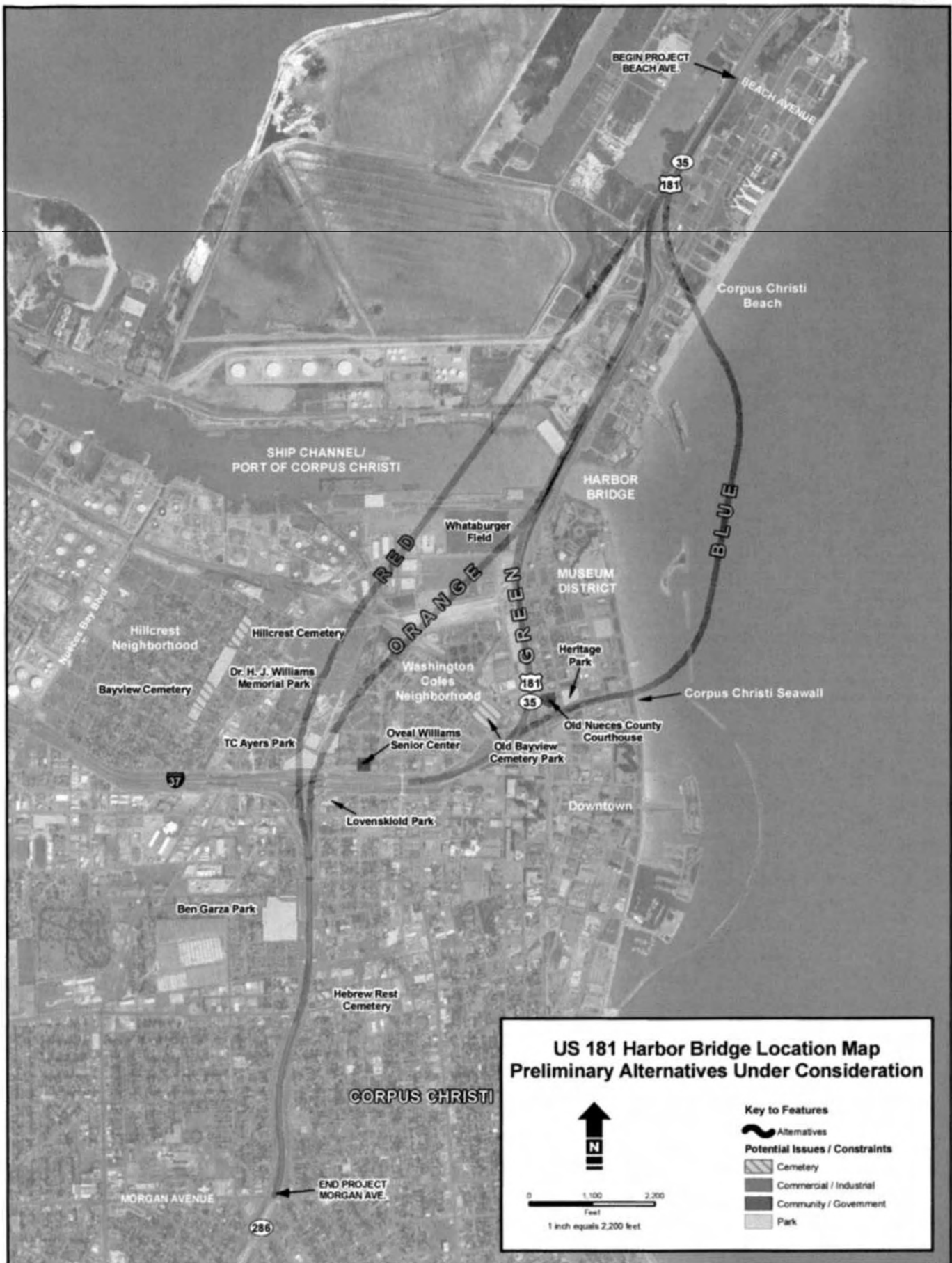
Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

Enclosures: Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850





Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

February 24, 2011

Mr. Hal Croft
Asset Management Deputy Commissioner
Texas General Land Office
P.O. Box 12873
Austin, TX 78711-2873

Dear Mr. Croft:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), intends to reinstate the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed transportation improvements on US 181 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095), which have the potential to affect the existing Harbor Bridge. The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of US 181 corridor improvements, as currently defined, are to improve safety, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and increase roadway capacity. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements under the Memorandum of Understanding and Memorandum of Agreement between TxDOT and the Texas General Land Office (GLO). The GLO will be formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS at a later date. With this letter, TxDOT is initiating informal coordination in advance of the formal project scoping process which is planned for Spring 2011. This informal coordination regarding the project is intended to aid in the development of the Draft Coordination Plan, as called for in SAFETEA-LU, and provide for a time-efficient, formal EIS Scoping process. To gauge expectations for the GLO's formal participation in the project, and to gather input for development of the Draft Coordination Plan, TxDOT requests that the GLO provide responses to the following questions:

Background and Primary Contact

TxDOT anticipates that Manuel Freytes will be the primary contact person for the GLO.

1. Is your agency familiar with the USDOT requirements under SAFETEA-LU which TxDOT and FHWA will be following?
2. Will Mr. Freytes be available for routine project meetings involving your jurisdiction as well as other project issues?
3. If so, how often and in what format (in-person or via conference-call) will Mr. Freytes be able to meet?

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Review and Comment

Under SAFETEA-LU certain NEPA-related documents will be produced and TxDOT intends to provide the GLO with an opportunity to participate in the development of these documents as well as to review draft and final versions. SAFETEA-LU establishes a maximum review and comment period of 30 days for the Draft Coordination Plan (which will include the Need and Purpose for the proposed project as well as the range of reasonable alternatives proposed for study) and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings. For the Draft EIS, SAFETEA-LU provides for a maximum review and comment period of 60 days.

1. During the formal EIS Scoping process to coincide with the future publication of the Notice of Intent to initiate the project, should TxDOT expect that your agency would review and provide comments on the Draft Coordination Plan and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings within 30 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?
2. Do you see any reason why your agency would not be able to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS within 60 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?

Alternatives Analysis and Methodology

As stated, this EIS project, which has been under study since 2001, is intended to be reinitiated under SAFETEA-LU. As such, a number of alternatives have been developed previously and are anticipated to be among the range of reasonable alternatives to be studied in the Draft EIS. A project map showing these preliminary alternatives is attached to this letter. A no-build alternative will also be studied.

1. Does your agency have informal feedback to provide regarding the alternatives shown on the attached map? If so, please provide your feedback.
2. Do you anticipate that during the formal EIS Scoping process your agency might propose that additional alternatives be studied as well?
3. For the analysis of the alternatives, would your agency expect TxDOT to follow a methodology or provide a level of detail outlined in anything other than FHWA's guidance for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

Thank you very much for taking the time to be part of this informal pre-scoping process. We appreciate your cooperation and hope that early coordination will make the formal process as efficient as possible. Please provide your responses to the above questions to TxDOT (Vicki Crnich) verbally, by email, or in writing as soon as possible, and be advised that your agency will be given additional opportunities to participate during the formal EIS Scoping phase.

We anticipate that project staff will contact your office shortly after sending this letter as a means to gather timely feedback as well as to schedule a conference call or in-person meeting to discuss informally the content of this letter and other project details. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dianna F. Noble". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dianna" being more prominent than the last name "Noble".

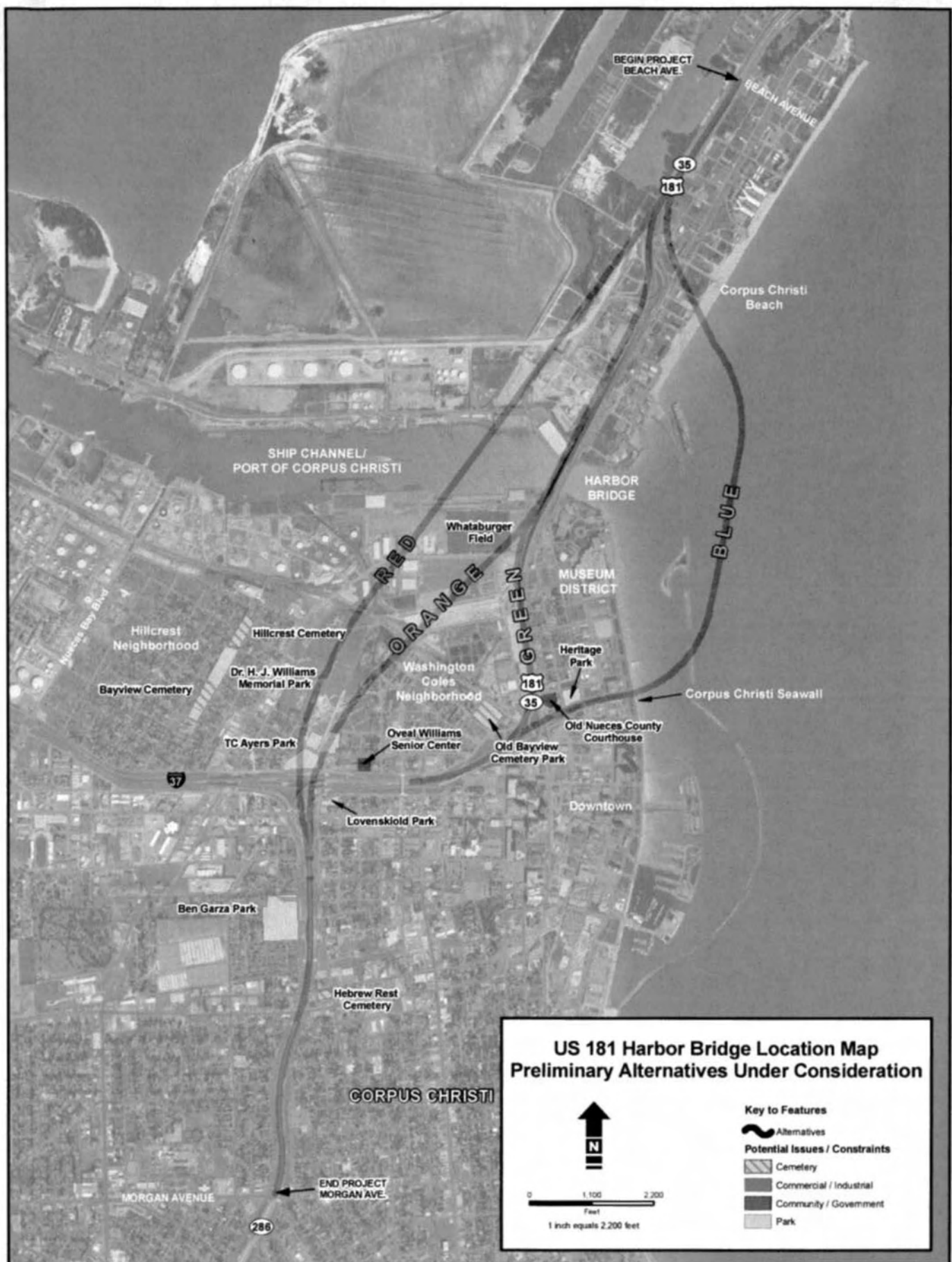
Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

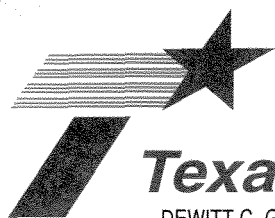
Enclosures: Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850





Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

February 24, 2011

Mr. Carter Smith
Executive Director
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744

Dear Mr. Smith:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), intends to reinstate the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed transportation improvements on US 181 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095), which have the potential to affect the existing Harbor Bridge. The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of US 181 corridor improvements, as currently defined, are to improve safety, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and increase roadway capacity. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between TxDOT and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). TPWD will be formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS at a later date. With this letter, TxDOT is initiating informal coordination in advance of the formal project scoping process which is planned for Spring 2011. This informal coordination regarding the project is intended to aid in the development of the Draft Coordination Plan, as called for in SAFETEA-LU, and provide for a time-efficient, formal EIS Scoping process. To gauge expectations for the TPWD's formal participation in the project, and to gather input for development of the Draft Coordination Plan, TxDOT requests that the TPWD provide responses to the following questions:

Background and Primary Contact

TxDOT anticipates that Russell Hooten will be the primary contact person for TPWD.

1. Is your agency familiar with the USDOT requirements under SAFETEA-LU which TxDOT and FHWA will be following?
2. Will Mr. Hooten be available for routine project meetings involving your jurisdiction as well as other project issues?
3. If so, how often and in what format (in-person or via conference-call) will Mr. Hooten be able to meet?

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Review and Comment

Under SAFETEA-LU certain NEPA-related documents will be produced and TxDOT intends to provide TPWD with an opportunity to participate in the development of these documents as well as to review draft and final versions. SAFETEA-LU establishes a maximum review and comment period of 30 days for the Draft Coordination Plan (which will include the Need and Purpose for the proposed project as well as the range of reasonable alternatives proposed for study) and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings. For the Draft EIS, SAFETEA-LU provides for a maximum review and comment period of 60 days.

1. During the formal EIS Scoping process to coincide with the future publication of the Notice of Intent to initiate the project, should TxDOT expect that your agency would review and provide comments on the Draft Coordination Plan and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings within 30 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?
2. Do you see any reason why your agency would not be able to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS within 60 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?

Alternatives Analysis and Methodology

As stated, this EIS project, which has been under study since 2001, is intended to be reinitiated under SAFETEA-LU. As such, a number of alternatives have been developed previously and are anticipated to be among the range of reasonable alternatives to be studied in the Draft EIS. A project map showing these preliminary alternatives is attached to this letter. A no-build alternative will also be studied.

1. Does your agency have informal feedback to provide regarding the alternatives shown on the attached map? If so, please provide your feedback.
2. Do you anticipate that during the formal EIS Scoping process your agency might propose that additional alternatives be studied as well?
3. For the analysis of the alternatives, would your agency expect TxDOT to follow the methodology and provide the level of detail outlined in the 1998 MOA?

Thank you very much for taking the time to be part of this informal pre-scoping process. We appreciate your cooperation and hope that early coordination will make the formal process as efficient as possible. Please provide your responses to the above questions to TxDOT (Vicki Crnich) verbally, by email, or in writing as soon as possible, and be advised that your agency will be given additional opportunities to participate during the formal EIS Scoping phase.

We anticipate that project staff will contact your office shortly after sending this letter as a means to gather timely feedback as well as to schedule a conference call or in-person meeting to discuss informally the content of this letter and other project details. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch

Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

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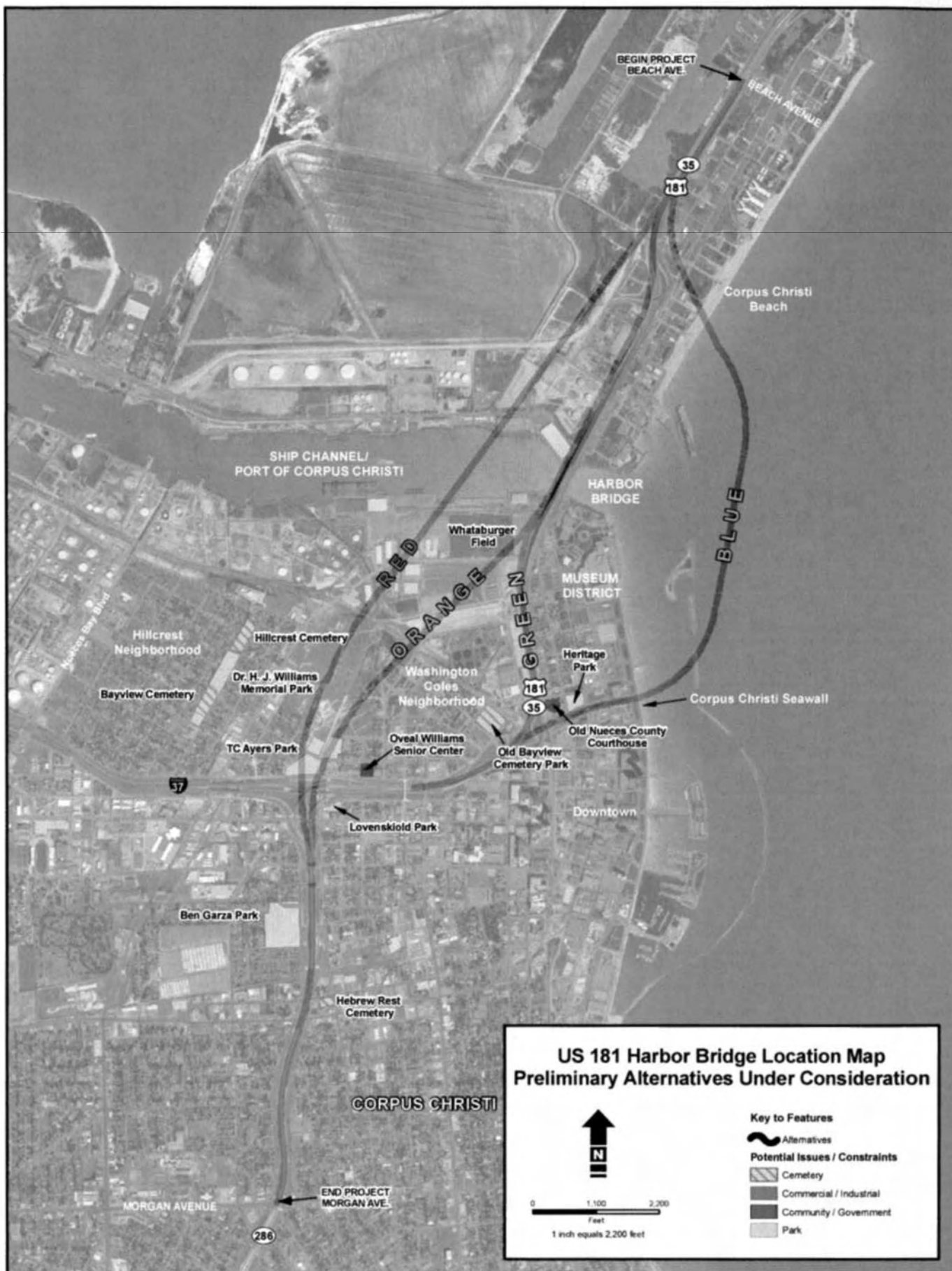
Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

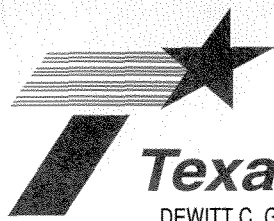
Enclosures: Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850





Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

February 24, 2011

Col. Christopher W. Sallese
District Engineer and Commanding Officer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Galveston District, P.O. Box 1229
Galveston, TX 77553-1229

Dear Col. Sallese:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), intends to reinstate the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed transportation improvements on US 181 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095), which have the potential to affect the existing Harbor Bridge. The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of US 181 corridor improvements, as currently defined, are to improve safety, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and increase roadway capacity. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, and the potential for the project to affect waters of the U.S., including wetlands. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will be formally invited to become a Cooperating and/or Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS at a later date. With this letter, TxDOT is initiating informal coordination in advance of the formal project scoping process which is planned for Spring 2011. This informal coordination regarding the project is intended to aid in the development of the Draft Coordination Plan, as called for in SAFETEA-LU, and provide for a time-efficient, formal EIS Scoping process. To gauge expectations for the USACE's formal participation in the project, and to gather input for development of the Draft Coordination Plan, TxDOT requests that the USACE provide responses to the following questions:

Background and Primary Contact

TxDOT anticipates that Mark Patillo will be the primary contact person for the USACE and that a project reviewer will be assigned to this project upon receipt of the formal EIS Scoping invitation.

1. Is your agency familiar with the USDOT requirements under SAFETEA-LU which TxDOT and FHWA will be following?
2. Will the assigned USACE contact be available for routine project meetings involving your jurisdiction as well as other project issues?

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3. If so, how often and in what format (in-person or via conference-call) will the USACE contact be able to meet?

Review and Comment

Under SAFETEA-LU certain NEPA-related documents will be produced and TxDOT intends to provide the USACE with an opportunity to participate in the development of these documents as well as to review draft and final versions. SAFETEA-LU establishes a maximum review and comment period of 30 days for the Draft Coordination Plan (which will include the Need and Purpose for the proposed project as well as the range of reasonable alternatives proposed for study) and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings. For the Draft EIS, SAFETEA-LU provides for a maximum review and comment period of 60 days.

1. During the formal EIS Scoping process to coincide with the future publication of the Notice of Intent to initiate the project, should TxDOT expect that your agency would review and provide comments on the Draft Coordination Plan and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings within 30 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?
2. Do you see any reason why your agency would not be able to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS within 60 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?

Alternatives Analysis and Methodology

As stated, this EIS project, which has been under study since 2001, is intended to be reinstituted under SAFETEA-LU. As such, a number of alternatives have been developed previously and are anticipated to be among the range of reasonable alternatives to be studied in the Draft EIS. A project map showing these preliminary alternatives is attached to this letter. A no-build alternative will also be studied.

1. Does your agency have informal feedback to provide regarding the alternatives shown on the attached map? If so, please provide your feedback.
2. Do you anticipate that during the formal EIS Scoping process your agency might propose that additional alternatives be studied as well?
3. For the analysis of the alternatives, would your agency expect TxDOT to follow the methodology and provide the level of detail outlined in the Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (40 CFR 230)?

Thank you very much for taking the time to be part of this informal pre-scoping process. We appreciate your cooperation and hope that early coordination will make the formal process as efficient as possible. Please provide your responses to the above questions to TxDOT (Vicki Crnich) verbally, by email, or in writing as soon as possible, and be advised that your agency will be given additional opportunities to participate during the formal EIS Scoping phase.

We anticipate that project staff will contact your office shortly after sending this letter as a means to gather timely feedback as well as to schedule a conference call or in-person meeting to discuss informally the content of this letter and other project details. If you have any questions or would

like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

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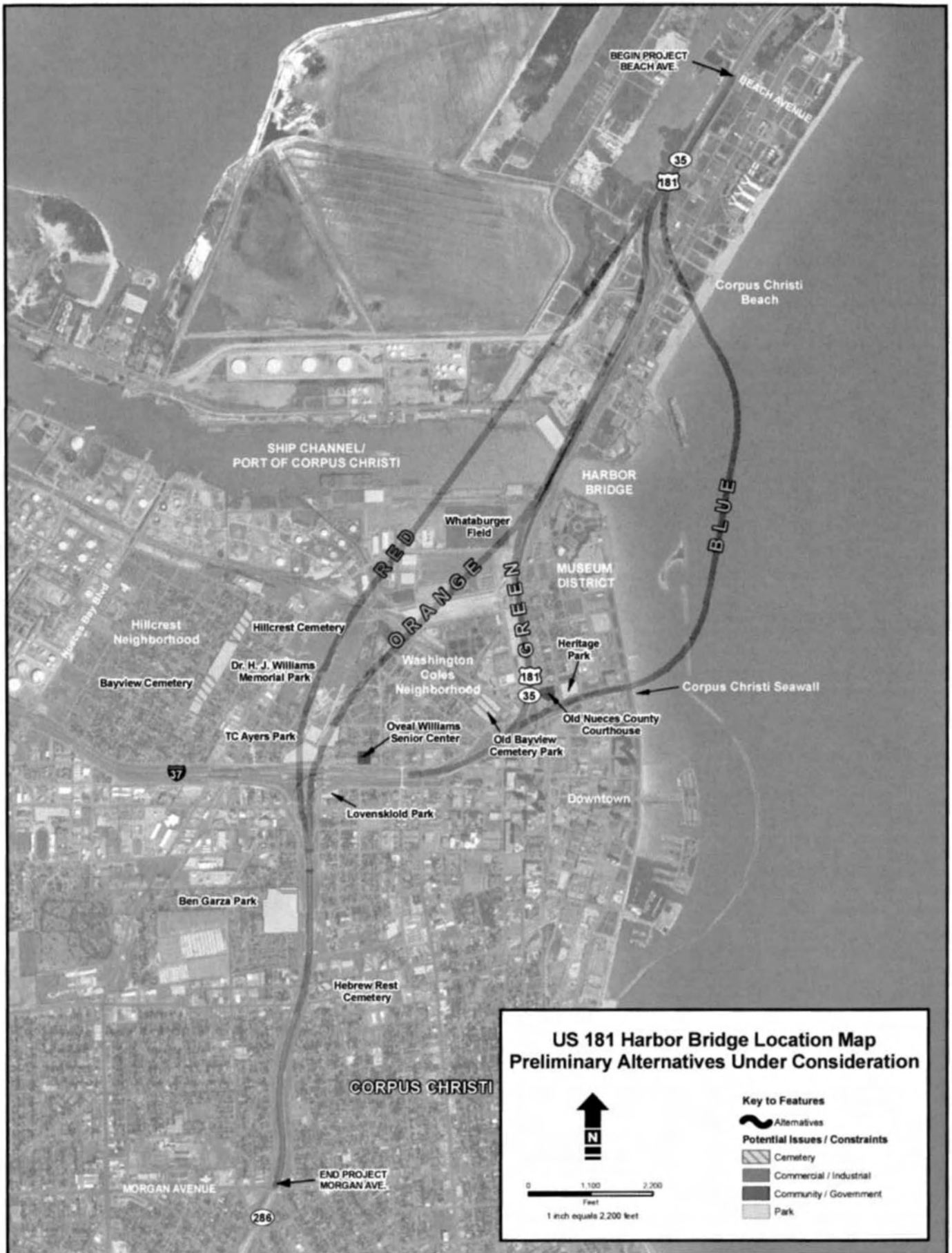
Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

Enclosures: Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850





Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

February 24, 2011

Mr. David Frank
Commander DPB
Eighth Coast Guard District
Bridge Section
500 Poydras Street
New Orleans, LA 70130-3310

Dear Commander Frank:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), intends to reinstate the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed transportation improvements on US 181 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095), which have the potential to affect the existing Harbor Bridge. The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of US 181 corridor improvements, as currently defined, are to improve safety, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and increase roadway capacity. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements of Section 9 of the Rivers and Harbor Act. The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) will be formally invited to become a Cooperating and/or Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS at a later date. With this letter, TxDOT is initiating informal coordination in advance of the formal project scoping process which is planned for Spring 2011. This informal coordination regarding the project is intended to aid in the development of the Draft Coordination Plan, as called for in SAFETEA-LU, and provide for a time-efficient, formal EIS Scoping process. To gauge expectations for the USCG's formal participation in the project, and to gather input for development of the Draft Coordination Plan, TxDOT requests that the USCG provide responses to the following questions:

Background and Primary Contact

TxDOT anticipates that Philip Johnson will be the primary contact person for the USCG.

1. Is your agency familiar with the USDOT requirements under SAFETEA-LU which TxDOT and FHWA will be following?
2. Will Mr. Johnson be available for routine project meetings involving your jurisdiction as well as other project issues?
3. If so, how often and in what format (in-person or via conference-call) will Mr. Johnson be able to meet?

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Review and Comment

Under SAFETEA-LU certain NEPA-related documents will be produced and TxDOT intends to provide the USCG with an opportunity to participate in the development of these documents as well as to review draft and final versions. SAFETEA-LU establishes a maximum review and comment period of 30 days for the Draft Coordination Plan (which will include the Need and Purpose for the proposed project as well as the range of reasonable alternatives proposed for study) and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings. For the Draft EIS, SAFETEA-LU provides for a maximum review and comment period of 60 days.

1. During the formal EIS Scoping process to coincide with the future publication of the Notice of Intent to initiate the project, should TxDOT expect that your agency would review and provide comments on the Draft Coordination Plan and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings within 30 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?
2. Do you see any reason why your agency would not be able to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS within 60 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?

Alternatives Analysis and Methodology

As stated, this EIS project, which has been under study since 2001, is intended to be reinitiated under SAFETEA-LU. As such, a number of alternatives have been developed previously and are anticipated to be among the range of reasonable alternatives to be studied in the Draft EIS. A project map showing these preliminary alternatives is attached to this letter. A no-build alternative will also be studied.

1. Does your agency have informal feedback to provide regarding the alternatives shown on the attached map? If so, please provide your feedback.
2. Do you anticipate that during the formal EIS Scoping process your agency might propose that additional alternatives be studied as well?
3. For the analysis of the alternatives, would your agency expect TxDOT to follow a methodology or provide a level of detail outlined in anything other than FHWA's guidance for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

Thank you very much for taking the time to be part of this informal pre-scoping process. We appreciate your cooperation and hope that early coordination will make the formal process as efficient as possible. Please provide your responses to the above questions to TxDOT (Vicki Crnich) verbally, by email, or in writing as soon as possible, and be advised that your agency will be given additional opportunities to participate during the formal EIS Scoping phase.

We anticipate that project staff will contact your office shortly after sending this letter as a means to gather timely feedback as well as to schedule a conference call or in-person meeting to discuss informally the content of this letter and other project details. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

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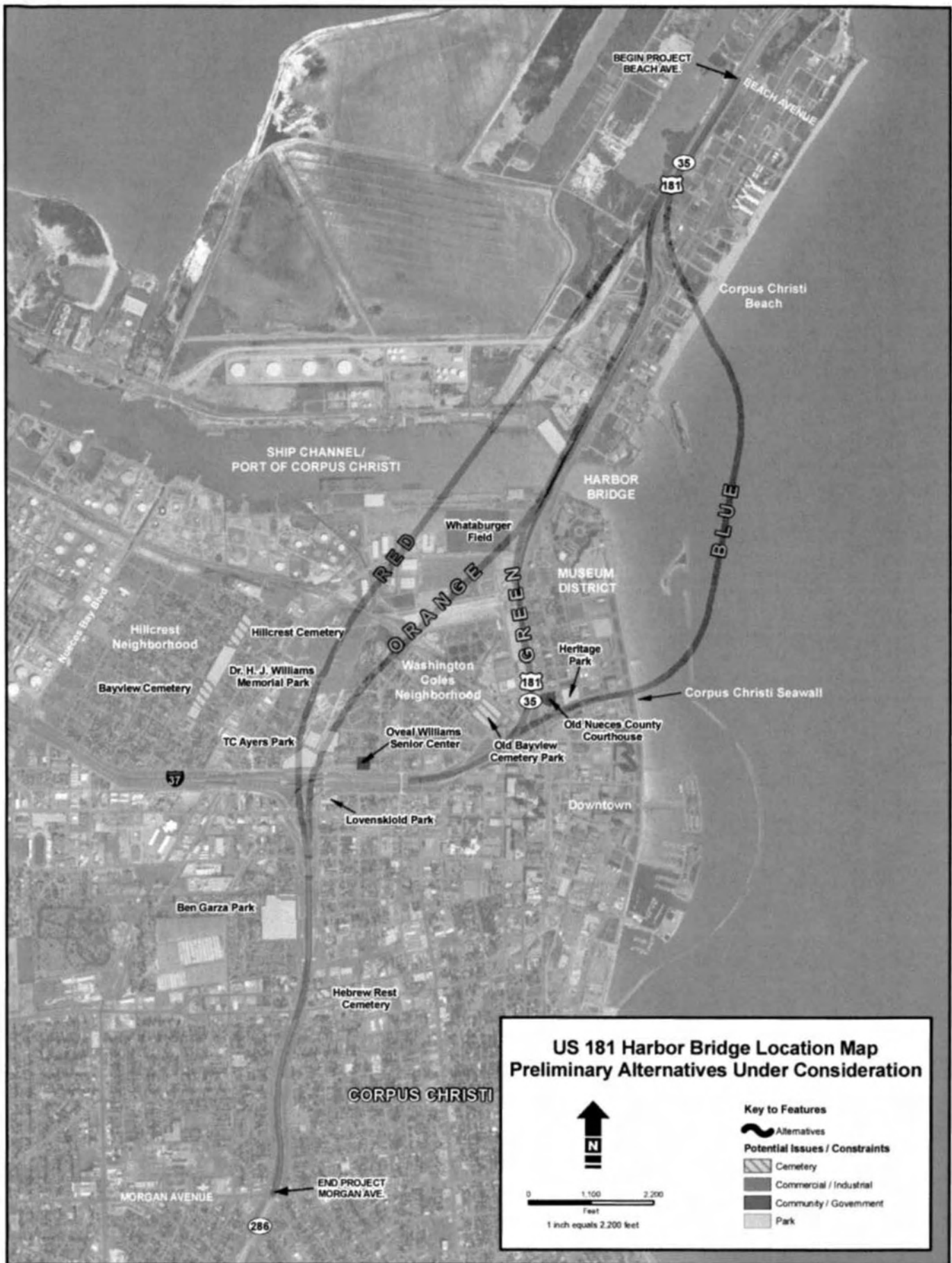
Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

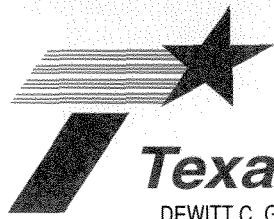
Enclosures: Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850





Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

February 24, 2011

Mr. Allan Strand
Supervisor, Corpus Christi Ecological Services Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
C/O TAMU-Corpus Christi
6300 Ocean Drive, # 5837
Corpus Christi, TX 78412-5837

Dear Mr. Strand:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), intends to reinstate the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed transportation improvements on US 181 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095), which have the potential to affect the existing Harbor Bridge. The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of US 181 corridor improvements, as currently defined, are to improve safety, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and increase roadway capacity. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements of the Endangered Species Act. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will be formally invited to become a Cooperating and/or Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS at a later date. With this letter, TxDOT is initiating informal coordination in advance of the formal project scoping process which is planned for Spring 2011. This informal coordination regarding the project is intended to aid in the development of the Draft Coordination Plan, as called for in SAFETEA-LU, and provide for a time-efficient, formal EIS Scoping process. To gauge expectations for the USFWS' formal participation in the project, and to gather input for development of the Draft Coordination Plan, TxDOT requests that the USFWS provide responses to the following questions:

Background and Primary Contact

TxDOT anticipates that Pat Clements will be the primary contact person for the USFWS.

1. Is your agency familiar with the USDOT requirements under SAFETEA-LU which TxDOT and FHWA will be following?
2. Will Ms. Clements be available for routine project meetings involving your jurisdiction as well as other project issues?
3. If so, how often and in what format (in-person or via conference-call) will Ms. Clements be able to meet?

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Review and Comment

Under SAFETEA-LU certain NEPA-related documents will be produced and TxDOT intends to provide the USFWS with an opportunity to participate in the development of these documents as well as to review draft and final versions. SAFETEA-LU establishes a maximum review and comment period of 30 days for the Draft Coordination Plan (which will include the Need and Purpose for the proposed project as well as the range of reasonable alternatives proposed for study) and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings. For the Draft EIS, SAFETEA-LU provides for a maximum review and comment period of 60 days.

1. During the formal EIS Scoping process to coincide with the future publication of the Notice of Intent to initiate the project, should TxDOT expect that your agency would review and provide comments on the Draft Coordination Plan and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings within 30 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?
2. Do you see any reason why your agency would not be able to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS within 60 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?

Alternatives Analysis and Methodology

As stated, this EIS project, which has been under study since 2001, is intended to be reinitiated under SAFETEA-LU. As such, a number of alternatives have been developed previously and are anticipated to be among the range of reasonable alternatives to be studied in the Draft EIS. A project map showing these preliminary alternatives is attached to this letter. A no-build alternative will also be studied.

1. Does your agency have informal feedback to provide regarding the alternatives shown on the attached map? If so, please provide your feedback.
2. Do you anticipate that during the formal EIS Scoping process your agency might propose that additional alternatives be studied as well?
3. For the analysis of the alternatives, would your agency expect TxDOT to follow a methodology or provide a level of detail outlined in anything other than FHWA's guidance for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

Thank you very much for taking the time to be part of this informal pre-scoping process. We appreciate your cooperation and hope that early coordination will make the formal process as efficient as possible. Please provide your responses to the above questions to TxDOT (Vicki Crnich) verbally, by email, or in writing as soon as possible, and be advised that your agency will be given additional opportunities to participate during the formal EIS Scoping phase.

We anticipate that project staff will contact your office shortly after sending this letter as a means to gather timely feedback as well as to schedule a conference call or in-person meeting to discuss informally the content of this letter and other project details. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

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Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
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Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

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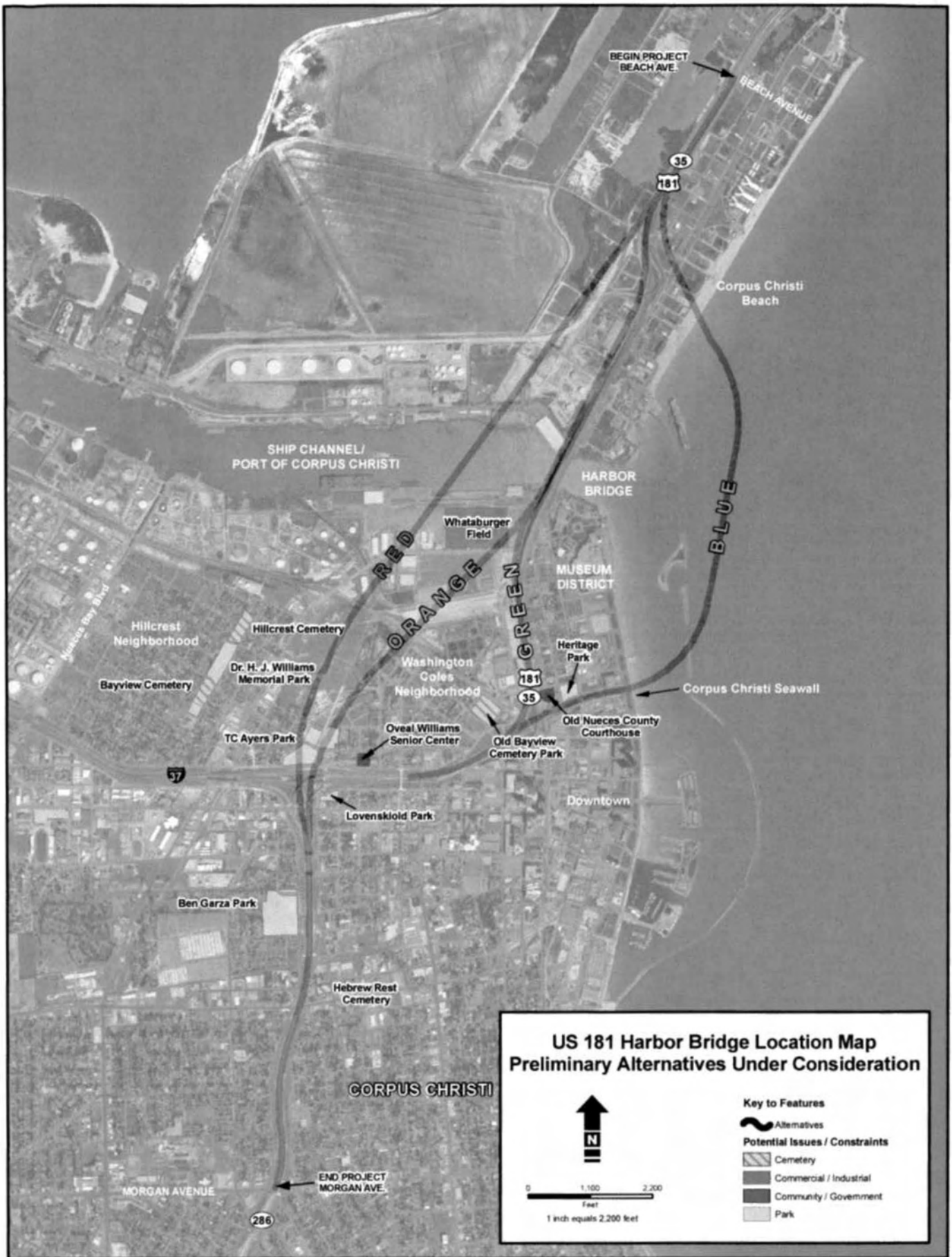
Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

Enclosures: Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850



February 14, 2011

Mr. Ángel Escobar
City Manager
1201 Leopard Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Dear Mr. Escobar:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), intends to reinstate the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed transportation improvements on US 181 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095), which have the potential to affect the existing Harbor Bridge. The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of US 181 corridor improvements, as currently defined, are to improve safety, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and increase roadway capacity. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

The City of Corpus Christi is expected to have an interest in the proposed project in order to aid project planners in identifying potential project effects to areas and services within the city limits and area of extraterritorial jurisdiction. The City of Corpus Christi will be formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS at a later date. With this letter, TxDOT is initiating informal coordination in advance of the formal project scoping process which is planned for Spring 2011. This informal coordination regarding the project is intended to aid in the development of the Draft Coordination Plan, as called for in SAFETEA-LU, and provide for a time-efficient, formal EIS Scoping process. To gauge expectations for the City of Corpus Christi's formal participation in the project, and to gather input for development of the Draft Coordination Plan, TxDOT requests that the City provide responses to the following questions:

Background and Primary Contact

1. Is your agency familiar with the USDOT requirements under SAFETEA-LU which TxDOT and FHWA will be following?
2. Will the assigned City contact be available for routine project meetings involving your jurisdiction as well as other project issues?
3. If so, how often and in what format (in-person or via conference-call) will the City contact be able to meet?

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Review and Comment

Under SAFETEA-LU there are certain NEPA-related documents that will be produced and TxDOT intends to provide the City with an opportunity to participate in the development of these documents as well as to review draft and final versions. SAFETEA-LU establishes a maximum review and comment period of 30 days for the Draft Coordination Plan (which will include the Need and Purpose for the proposed project as well as the range of reasonable alternatives proposed for study) and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings. For the Draft EIS, SAFETEA-LU provides for a maximum review and comment period of 60 days.

1. During the formal EIS Scoping process to coincide with the future publication of the Notice of Intent to initiate the project, should TxDOT expect that the City would review and provide comments on the Draft Coordination Plan and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings within 30 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could the City possibly provide comments sooner?
2. Do you see any reason why the City would not be able to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS within 60 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could the City possibly provide comments sooner?

Alternatives Analysis and Methodology

As stated, this EIS project, which has been under study since 2001, is intended to be reinitiated under SAFETEA-LU. As such, a number of alternatives have been developed previously and are anticipated to be among the range of reasonable alternatives to be studied in the Draft EIS. A project map showing these preliminary alternatives is attached to this letter. A no-build alternative will also be studied.

1. Does the City have informal feedback to provide regarding the alternatives shown on the attached map? If so, please provide your feedback.
2. Do you anticipate that during the formal EIS Scoping process the City might propose that additional alternatives be studied as well?
3. For the analysis of the alternatives, would the City expect TxDOT to follow a methodology or provide a level of detail outlined in anything other than FHWA's guidance for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

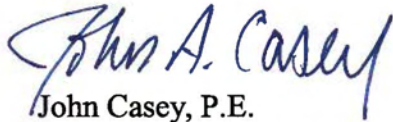
Thank you very much for taking the time to be part of this informal pre-scoping process. We appreciate your cooperation and hope that early coordination will make the formal process as efficient as possible. Please provide your responses to the above questions to TxDOT (Victor Vourcos) verbally, by email, or in writing as soon as possible, and be advised that your agency will be given additional opportunities to participate during the formal EIS Scoping phase.

We anticipate that project staff will contact your office shortly after sending this letter as a means to gather timely feedback as well as to schedule a conference call or in-person meeting to discuss informally the content of this letter and other project details. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, P.E.
Advance Project Development Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416-1324
(361) 808-2378 / Victor.Vourcos@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

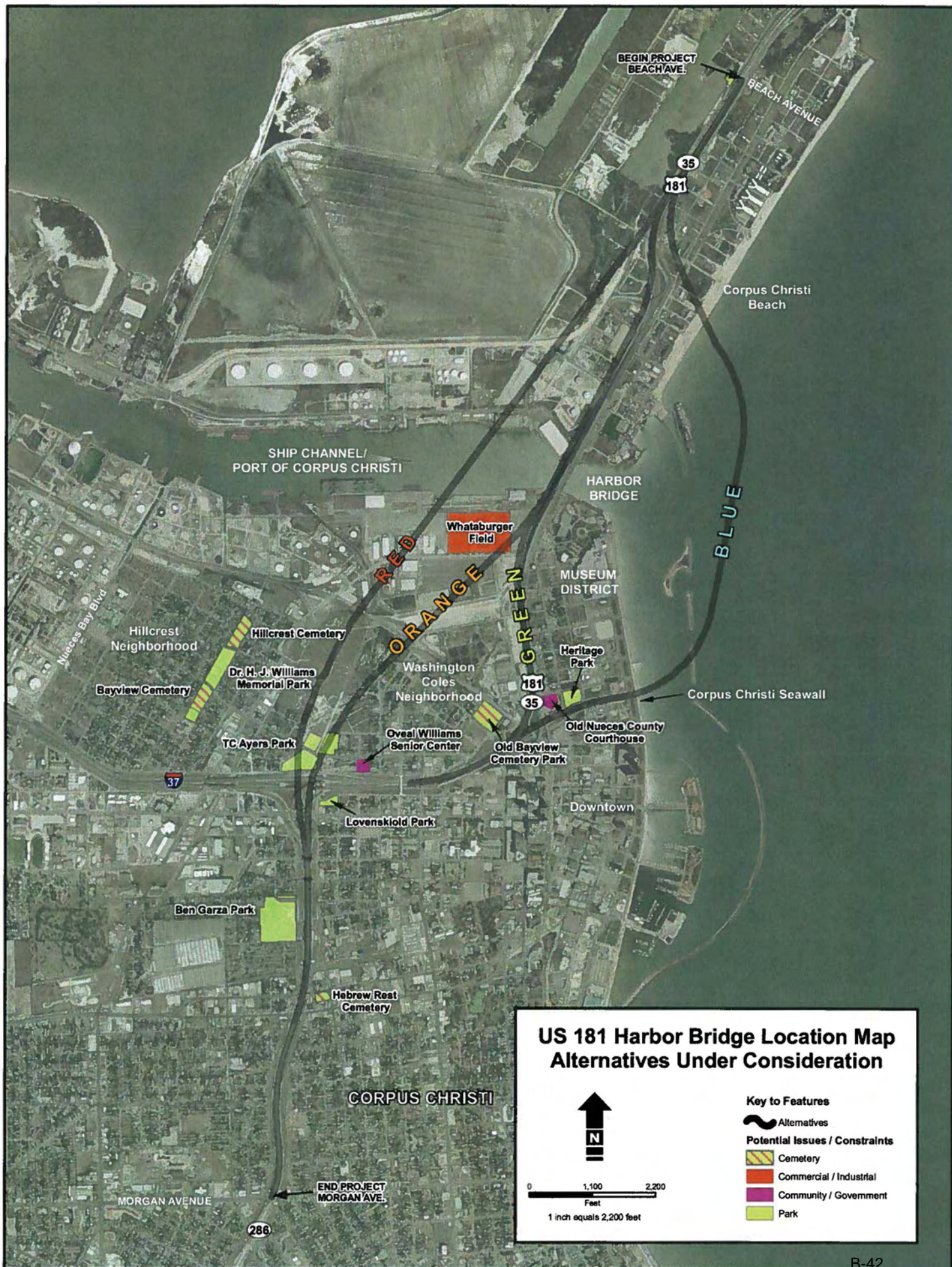
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John A. Casey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being more prominent than the last name "Casey".

John Casey, P.E.
District Engineer, Corpus Christi District

Enclosures: Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District





Texas Department of Transportation

1701 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND DRIVE • CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78416 • (361) 808-2300

February 14, 2011

Mr. Frank C. Brogan, P.E.
Deputy Port Director
Engineering, Finance and Administration
222 Power Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Dear Mr. Brogan:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), intends to reinitiate the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed transportation improvements on US 181 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095), which have the potential to affect the existing Harbor Bridge. The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of US 181 corridor improvements, as currently defined, are to improve safety, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and increase roadway capacity. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project in order to identify issues related to the Corpus Christi Ship Channel and Port properties, including shipping, safety, and commerce. The Port of Corpus Christi will be formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS at a later date. With this letter, TxDOT is initiating informal coordination in advance of the formal project scoping process which is planned for Spring 2011. This informal coordination regarding the project is intended to aid in the development of the Draft Coordination Plan, as called for in SAFETEA-LU, and provide for a time-efficient, formal EIS Scoping process. To gauge expectations for the Port of Corpus Christi's formal participation in the project, and to gather input for development of the Draft Coordination Plan, TxDOT requests that the Port provide responses to the following questions:

Background and Primary Contact

1. Is your agency familiar with the USDOT requirements under SAFETEA-LU which TxDOT and FHWA will be following?
2. Will the assigned Port contact be available for routine project meetings involving your jurisdiction as well as other project issues?

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3. If so, how often and in what format (in-person or via conference-call) will the Port contact be able to meet?

Review and Comment

Under SAFETEA-LU there are certain NEPA-related documents that will be produced and TxDOT intends to provide the Port with an opportunity to participate in the development of these documents as well as to review draft and final versions. SAFETEA-LU establishes a maximum review and comment period of 30 days for the Draft Coordination Plan (which will include the Need and Purpose for the proposed project as well as the range of reasonable alternatives proposed for study) and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings. For the Draft EIS, SAFETEA-LU provides for a maximum review and comment period of 60 days.

1. During the formal EIS Scoping process to coincide with the future publication of the Notice of Intent to initiate the project, should TxDOT expect that your agency would review and provide comments on the Draft Coordination Plan and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings within 30 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?
2. Do you see any reason why your agency would not be able to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS within 60 days? If not, what timeframe would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?

Alternatives Analysis and Methodology

As stated, this EIS project, which has been under study since 2001, is intended to be reinitiated under SAFETEA-LU. As such, a number of alternatives have been developed previously and are anticipated to be among the range of reasonable alternatives to be studied in the Draft EIS. A project map showing these preliminary alternatives is attached to this letter. A no-build alternative will also be studied.

1. Does your agency have informal feedback to provide regarding the alternatives shown on the attached map? If so, please provide your feedback.
2. Do you anticipate that during the formal EIS Scoping process your agency might propose that additional alternatives be studied as well?
3. For the analysis of the alternatives, would your agency expect TxDOT to follow a methodology or provide a level of detail outlined in anything other than FHWA's guidance for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

Thank you very much for taking the time to be part of this informal pre-scoping process. We appreciate your cooperation and hope that early coordination will make the formal process as efficient as possible. Please provide your responses to

the above questions to TxDOT (Victor Vourcos) verbally, by email, or in writing as soon as possible, and be advised that your agency will be given additional opportunities to participate during the formal EIS Scoping phase.

We anticipate that project staff will contact your office shortly after sending this letter as a means to gather timely feedback as well as to schedule a conference call or in-person meeting to discuss informally the content of this letter and other project details. If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, P.E.
Advance Project Development Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416-1324
(361) 808-2378 / Victor.Vourcos@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John A. Casey".

John Casey, P.E.
District Engineer, Corpus Christi District

Enclosures: Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



The following letters were received from potential cooperating and participating agencies during Pre-Scoping, and include correspondence from:

- Port of Corpus Christi Authority
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District
- Eighth Coast Guard District, Bridge Section
- U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Corpus Christi Ecological Services Office
- Texas Historical Commission
- National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office



PORTCORPUSCHRISTI

Frank C. Brogan, P.E., R.P.L.S.
Deputy Port Director
Engineering, Finance & Administration

March 3, 2011

Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, P.E.
Advance Project Development Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
1701 S. Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, Texas 78416

CORPUS CHRISTI

MAR 04 2011

DISTRICT

RECEIVED

MAR 04 2011

CRP-TP&D

**Subject: Environmental Impact Statement
US 181 Harbor Bridge Transportation Improvements
Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095)**

Dear Mr. Vourcos:

The Port of Corpus Christi Authority (Port) received a letter dated February 14, 2011, from John Casey, Corpus Christi District Engineer for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). In that letter, Mr. Casey indicated that TxDOT would be reinstating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process for the subject project and invited the Port to be a Participating Agency with the Federal Highway Administration and TxDOT in the EIS process for this project.

As a potential Participating Agency, the Port was asked to provide the following information in response to questions outlined in the notification:

1. The Port is generally familiar with the U.S. Department of Transportation requirements under SAFETEA-LU and will, as a Participating Agency, be available for project meetings that involve Port jurisdictional interests as well as other project issues. The Port will make every effort to participate in-person; however, if unable to attend, the Port will take part in the meetings via conference call.
2. During review and comment periods for draft plans and meeting summaries, the Port will endeavor to provide comments within the requested 30 days. For the draft EIS, comments will be provided within the requested 60 days.
3. Of the preliminary alternatives provided with the letter, the Port has no feedback to provide at this time. However, if the study is reinstated, the Port may propose additional alternatives or adjustments to existing alternatives.



Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, P.E.
Page 2
March 3, 2011

4. The Port supports TxDOT's use of FHWA's guidance for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to analyze alternatives for the EIS.

The following is the contact information for the Port's representative on this project:

Mr. David L. Krams, P.E.
Manager of Channel Development
222 Power Street
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401
361-885-6134 / krams@pocca.com

We look forward to working with TxDOT, FHWA, other agencies, and our community on this important project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact David Krams.

Sincerely,



Frank C. Brogan, P.E., R.P.L.S.
Deputy Port Director
Engineering, Finance and Administration

DLK/pem

cc: John P. LaRue
Greg Brubeck
David L. Krams
John Casey

H:\FCB\TxDOT\Harbor Bridge EIS Ltr 3-3-11.docx



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
GALVESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 1229
GALVESTON TX 77553-1229

APR 22 2011

Policy Analysis Section

SUBJECT: SWG-2011-00224, Cooperating Agency Scoping Request for Proposed
Improvements on U.S. 181 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

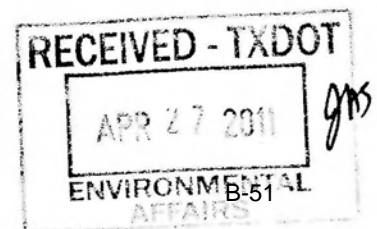
Handwritten: DW → Sonya H
Vicki C
4/27/11

Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 East 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

Dear Ms. Noble:

This concerns the U.S Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District (Corps) preliminary review of the proposed improvements to the U.S. 181 Harbor Bridge in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas. The Federal Highway Administration is the lead Federal agency in preparation of the Environmental Assessment (EA). The proposed U.S. 181 project segment is from Beach Avenue to Morgan Avenue in Nueces County, Texas.

As you are aware, the proposed project may require a Department of the Army (DA) permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The proposed project will be reviewed in accordance with 33 CFR 320-332, the Regulatory Program of the Corps, and other pertinent laws, regulations and executive orders. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered. We recommend the EA provide information and analysis of the proposed facility's effect on the following issues: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural resources, fish and wildlife values including threatened and endangered species and essential fish habitat, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, cumulative impacts, and air quality. As we participate in the EA process, additional factors and issues under our regulatory authority may be identified at a later date that will require further analyses and evaluation.



In addition, we recommend the EA evaluate alternatives including geographic alternatives, changes in location and other site-specific variables, and functional alternatives, e.g. project substitutes and design modifications. The EA should include analysis of proposed mitigation for impacts to wetlands and aquatic habitats and insure that sequencing of avoidance, minimization, and compensation has been fully integrated into the selection of the preferred alternative. Any proposed mitigation should include a functional assessment of impacted wetlands and demonstrate mitigation provides replacement of lost wetland functions.

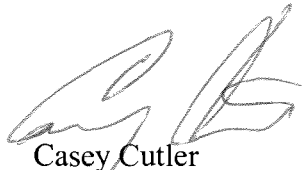
In order to determine the applicable DA permit requirements, and to initiate coordination with the appropriate resource agencies, we request the applicant submit the following information within their DA permit application:

- a. A wetland delineation per the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual, including a wetland delineation map per the October 2003 Standard Operating Procedure for Recording Jurisdictional Delineations Using Global Positioning Systems.
 - The Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain Supplement went into effect on January 4, 2009. Therefore, any data collected after January 4, 2009, must use the Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain Supplement where appropriate.
- b. A completed Engineer Form 4345.
- c. A completed Texas Coastal Management Program Form.
- d. A mitigation plan, including a functional assessment, that shows full compensation for all impacts associated with the proposed project have been made.
- e. Drawings associated with the permit application must be clear and concise, showing all impacts to waters of the U.S., including the acreage of the proposed impacts, on 8½- by 11-inch white paper with black ink. Drawings with an aerial photo background will not be accepted.
- f. For activities involving discharges of fill material into waters of the U.S., the application must include a statement describing how impacts to waters of the U.S. were avoided and minimized.
- g. A Threatened and Endangered species survey report of the proposed project area.
- h. A Historic Properties Survey of the proposed project area.

We understand that under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users, your agency is required to develop a Draft Coordination Plan that identifies specific time frames to provide agency comments on the scoping process and draft environmental impact statement. We will do our best to provide comments within the allotted timelines; however, understand that our permit process has its own timeline requirements. This is contingent on a determination of our jurisdiction, which should be identified early in the process to aid in addressing alternatives.

Mr. Dwayne Johnson will be your project manager and can be contacted at the letterhead address, by telephone at 409-766-6353, or by email at Dwayne.Johnson@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,



Casey Cutler
Chief, Policy Analysis Section

Copy Furnished:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 East 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2483



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
GALVESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 1229
GALVESTON TX 77553-1229

March 17, 2011

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS NOT A PERMIT

Evaluation Section

SUBJECT: **Acknowledgement** – Department of the Army Permit Application – **Proposed Environmental Impact Statement** – US 181 Corridor Improvements – **CJS 0101-06-095**

Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

Ms. Noble:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your February 24, 2011, notification of Texas Department of Transportation re-initiation of the Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed transportation improvements on the U.S. 181 corridor in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas, which have the potential to affect the existing Harbor Bridge. Please note the items listed below.

◆File Number Assigned:	SWG-2011-00224
◆Project Manager Assigned:	Mr. Dwayne A. Johnson
◆Telephone Number of Project Manager:	409-766-6353
◆Email Address of Project Manager:	dwayne.a.johnson@usace.army.mil
◆Mailing Address:	Dwayne A. Johnson CESWG-PE-RB U.S. Army Corps of Engineers P.O. Box 1229 Galveston, Texas 77553-1229

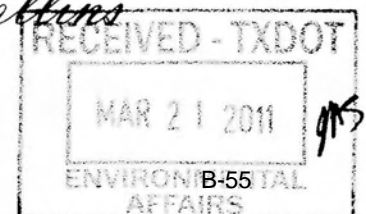
Please reference the above file number in all future correspondence with our office related to this request. You may contact the project manager at the address or telephone number listed above. As always, we are here to assist you in any manner we can regarding this request.

Sincerely,

Lavonne L. Collins

Lavonne L. Collins
Legal Instruments Examiner

PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS NOT A PERMIT



U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Eighth Coast Guard District
Hale Boggs Federal Building

500 Poydras Street
New Orleans, LA 70130-3310
Staff Symbol: (dpg)
Phone: (504) 671-2128
Fax: (504) 671-3122

Email: D08dpg@uscg.mil

16591A

March 16, 2011

Ms. Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
Dewitt C. Geer State Highway Building
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

Handwritten: 3/21/11 → SouyA

Dear Ms. Noble:

We have received your letter dated February 24, 2011 which presented questions, regarding the Coast Guard's role in the proposed transportation improvement project on U.S. 181 that will include replacement of the existing U.S. 181 fixed span bridge across Corpus Christi Channel at mile 10.0 at Corpus Christi, Texas. A U.S. Coast Guard Bridge Permit will be required for the construction of a new bridge at this location.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will be the lead Federal agency and the Coast Guard will be a cooperating Federal agency in the development of the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for purposes of meeting requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. (NEPA). Your letter indicated that the formal scoping process is being initiated and that you are currently developing a Draft Coordination Plan. You have invited the Coast Guard to participate in this process. A specific project officer from this staff has not yet been assigned to this proposed project. However, as you schedule scoping and agency coordination meetings, please provide me with adequate advance notice so that I, or one of our staff members, will be able to attend and participate.

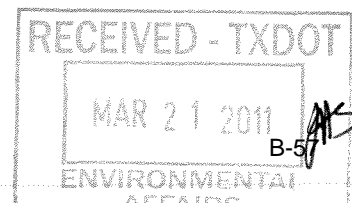
We are normally able to review and provide comments on a Draft Coordination Plan or a Draft EIS within 30 days. However, our procedure requires that we review the environmental documents both at the District Office and also at Coast Guard Headquarters. Thus, a minimum of 30 days is necessary to complete the review and comment process.

If you wish to discuss the bridge permitting process, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

DAVID M. FRANK
Bridge Administrator
By direction of the Commander,
Eighth Coast Guard District

Copy: Ms. Janice Brown, FHWA, Austin, TX
LT Wes Geyer, Waterways Management Section, Coast Guard Sector, Corpus Christi, TX





United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
c/o TAMU-CC, Campus Box 338
6300 Ocean Drive
Corpus Christi, Texas 78412

April 22, 2011

Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483

Consultation No. 21410-2011-TA-0229

Dear Ms. Crnich:

This responds to your letter, dated February 24, 2011, regarding the intent of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to reinstate the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed transportation improvements on US Highway 181, in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095), which have the potential to affect the existing Harbor Bridge. The project is proposed to be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). In your February 24th letter, you requested a response from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) regarding our interest in becoming a Cooperating and/or Participating Agency with TxDOT and FHWA in the development of the EIS at a later date.

In your February 24th letter you posed a number of questions and requested a response from the Service. The Service's responses to your questions are as follows:

Background and Primary Content

Question 1: Is your agency familiar with the USDOT requirements under SAFETEA-LU which TxDOT and FHWA will be following?

Response: Yes. The Corpus Christi Ecological Services Field Office (CCESFO) is familiar with the requirements under SAFETEA-LU Section 6002.

Question 2: Will Ms. Clements be available for routine project meetings involving your jurisdiction as well as other project issues?

Response: Yes.

Question 3: If so, how often and in what format (in-person or via conference-call) will Ms. Clements be able to meet?

Response: Both the frequency and format for Ms. Clements participation would depend on the items to be discussed/ meeting agenda. The Service requests that meetings and conference calls be scheduled at least 2 weeks in advance of the meeting date and that an agenda be provided at the time of scheduling so that a determination can be made of the appropriate participation level of Ms. Clements in the event.

Review and Comment

Question 1: During the formal EIS Scoping process to coincide with the future publication of the Notice of Intent to initiate the project, should TxDOT expect that your agency would review and provide comments on the Draft Coordination Plan and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings within 30 days? If not, what time frame would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?

Response: The Service routinely responds to documents such as the Draft coordination Plan and summaries of formal EIS Scoping meetings within a 30-day time frame. As the effort outlined for CSJ 0101-06-095 is one of a number of federal activities to which Ms. Clements has been assigned the coordination lead, the Service will contact your office if the 30-day comment period needs to be extended.

Question 2: Do you see any reason why your agency would not be able to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS within 60 days? If not, what time frame would work for your agency? Could your agency possibly provide comments sooner?

Response: At this time, the Service does foresee requiring longer than 60 days to respond to the Draft EIS; however, the Service would like to remind TxDOT and FHWA that if formal consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is initiated, the Service would have 135 days to complete a Biological Opinion in response to a final Biological Assessment.

Alternatives Analysis and Methodology

Question 1: Does your agency have informal feedback to provide regarding the alternatives shown on the attached map? If so, please provide your feedback.

Response: We have enclosed the list of federally listed or proposed threatened and endangered species that have been documented or are known to occur in the Nueces County. Species information may be obtained at <http://ifw2es.fws.gov/endangeredspecies/lists/>. The species information should help you determine if suitable habitat for these listed species exists in any of

the proposed project areas or if project activities may affect species on-site, or off-site. Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires that all Federal agencies consult with the Service to ensure that actions authorized, funded or carried out by such agencies do not jeopardize the continued existence of any listed threatened or endangered species or adversely modify or destroy critical habitat of such species. *It is the responsibility of the Federal action agency to determine if the proposed project may affect threatened or endangered species.* If a “may affect” determination is made, the Federal agency shall initiate the formal section 7 consultation process by writing to: Field Supervisor; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; c/o TAMU-CC, Campus Box 338; 6300 Ocean Drive; Corpus Christi, Texas 78412. If no effect is evident, no further consultation is needed; however, we would appreciate the opportunity to review the criteria used to arrive at that determination. Additionally, the State of Texas protects certain species. Please contact the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (Endangered Resources Branch), Fountain Park Plaza Building, Suite 100, 3000 South IH-35, Austin, Texas 78704 (telephone 512/912-7011) for information concerning fish, wildlife, and plants of State concern or visit their website at <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/nature/endang/animals/mammals/>.

Additionally, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act implements various treaties and conventions for the protection of migratory birds. Under the Act, taking, killing or possessing migratory birds is unlawful. Many may nest in trees, brush areas or other suitable habitat. The Service recommends activities requiring vegetation removal or disturbance avoid the peak nesting period of March through August to avoid destruction of individuals, nests or eggs (March 1st through September 15th in west Texas). If project activities must be conducted during this time, we recommend surveying for nests prior to commencing work. If a nest is found, and if possible, the Service recommends a buffer of vegetation ($\geq 50\text{m}$ for songbirds, $\geq 100\text{m}$ for wading birds, and $\geq 180\text{m}$ for terns, skimmers and birds of prey) remain around the nest until young have fledged or the nest is abandoned. A list of migratory birds may be viewed at <http://migratorybirds.fws.gov/intrnltr/mbta/proposedbirdlist.pdf>. With regard to Preliminary Alternative – Blue, the alignment approaches Sunfish Island which has in some years supported nesting colonial waterbirds. In the assessment for this alternative, impact to Sunfish Island, and opportunities for enhancement should be included in the analysis.

Question 2: Do you anticipate that during the formal EIS Scoping process your agency might propose that additional alternatives be studied as well?

Response: The Service does not anticipate proposing any additional alternative alignments for the US 181 Harbor Bridge location.

Question 3: For the analysis of the alternatives, would our agency expect TxDOT to follow a methodology or provide a level of detail outlined in anything other than FHWA’s guidance for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

Response: For impacts to jurisdictional waters and wetlands, the Service expects that TxDOT and FHWA would adhere to the Department of Defense and Environmental Protection Agency’s Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources, Final Rule, April 10, 2008 (40 CFR Part 230).

The Service appreciates the opportunity to participate in this planning effort. If you have any questions, you can reach Pat Clements at (361)994-9005 ext.225, or by email at pat_clements@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Bacah Clements". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Patricia" being the most prominent.

for Allan M. Strand
Field Supervisor

Encl: Federally Listed as Threatened and Endangered Species of Nueces County, Texas

cc:

L. Williams, TPWD, Corpus Christi, TX
R. Swafford, Habitat Conservation Division, NMFS, Galveston, TX
J. Herrington, Region 6, EPA, Temple, TX
L. Mullins, Corps of Engineers, Corpus Christi, TX
M. Horrocks, 401 Coordinator, TCEQ, Austin, TX
S. Weikum, Permit Service Center, TGLO, Corpus Christi, TX

Responses to General Agency Questions for Pre-scoping of the Harbor Bridge EIS Project

1. Yes, THC is familiar with some of the US DOT requirements under SAFETEA-LU.
2. Personnel at THC understand that there is a proposed project to replace the Harbor Bridge and some preliminary studies have been undertaken related to impacts to historic properties.
3. There will be two points of contact for project communication:

Mark Denton Archeology Division mark.denton@thc.state.tx.us 512/463-5711	Adrienne Campbell History Programs Division adrienne.campbell@thc.state.tx.us 512/936-7403
--	--
- The mailing address for both is:
 PO Box 12276
 Austin, TX 78711-2276
4. The contact persons would not be available for routine meetings.
5. Time constraints would probably limit staff to participating in no more than one or two meetings.
6. See above. Staff availability is limited, and the best use of staff time is for review during project coordination under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). However, TxDOT has a staff that includes both archeologists and architectural historians who have access to all of the information that THC would be able to provide at the early stages of project development and alternatives selection.
7. Coordination with our agency is already prescribed by the Programmatic Agreement between FHWA, TxDOT, THC, and ACHP. If there is an interest in working with THC outside of the terms of this agreement, it needs to be coordinated directly with our agency, not in the draft Coordination Plan for the EIS.
8. No. However, it is unlikely that THC will provide comments in the early scoping phase of the project. Once TxDOT identifies historic properties in the project area and is ready to proceed with coordination with our agency under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and according to the terms of the Programmatic Agreement, THC will be prepared to review the project within a 20-day timeframe.
9. See answer to number 8, above.
10. We received the questionnaire by email; no project draft Coordination Plan with letter showing a range of alternatives was provided.
11. That is at the discretion of the federal agency.

Additional Cooperating Agency questions

1. Yes. Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, federal agencies are required to consider the potential of federal undertakings to affect historic properties. The comments of THC must be considered in this process.

2. Compliance with NEPA, SAFETEA-LU, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is the responsibility of FHWA, not THC. THC staff cannot assist in writing the DEIS or technical reports. THC staff will review and comment on technical reports.

Participating Agencies

1. See above answer regarding cooperating agencies.

From: Eddie_Sutherland@URSCorp.com
To: jbuntz@hicksenvironment.com; ereed@hicksenvironment.com;
cc: Matt_Thompson@URSCorp.com;
Subject: Fw: Informal coordination regarding US 181 improvements in Corpus Christi
Date: Friday, March 04, 2011 9:21:21 AM
Attachments: [Essential Fish Habitat.pdf](#)

Attached is the response from NMFS and note that their contact person has changed. Erin Piper also attached the Essential Fish Habitat guidance so I'm forwarding this to Hicks even though I'm sure you have it.

Eddie Sutherland
Environmental Task Leader
URS Corporation
9400 Amberglenn
Austin, Texas 78729
Phone: 512-419-6449

This e-mail and any attachments contain URS Corporation confidential information that may be proprietary or privileged. If you receive this message in error or are not the intended recipient, you should not retain, distribute, disclose or use any of this information and you should destroy the e-mail and any attachments or copies.

----- Forwarded by Eddie Sutherland/Austin/URSCorp on 03/04/2011 09:18 AM

Erin Piper <Erin.Piper@noaa.gov>
03/03/2011 03:31 PM

To
vicki.crnich@txdot.gov
cc
eddie_sutherland@urscorp.com, victor.vourcos@txdot.gov
Subject
Re: Informal coordination regarding US 181 improvements in Corpus Christi

Ms. Crnich,

I spoke with Eddie Sutherland today and provided him NMFS' responses to the questions included in the informal coordination letter dated February 24, 2011. I've attached information regarding Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) which outlines the consultation process and includes the requirements for EFH assessments. I will be the primary contact for NMFS regarding this project so please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you!

--

Erin Piper
Essential Fish Habitat Specialist
NMFS Habitat Conservation Division
4700 Ave. U Galveston, Texas 77551
Phone (409) 766-3699
Fax (409) 766-3575

SCOPING

The following letters were distributed to potential cooperating and participating agencies during Scoping, and include:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Corpus Christi Ecological Services Office
- U.S. Coast Guard, Eighth District, Bridge Section
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
- Comanche Nation of Oklahoma
- Kiowa Indian Tribe of Oklahoma
- Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Mescalero Apache Tribe
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Texas General Land Office, Asset Management
- National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office
- Texas Historical Commission
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Historic Bridge Foundation
- Texas Coastal Coordination Council
- Coastal Bend Council of Governments
- Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation
- Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority
- City of Corpus Christi
- City of Portland
- Nueces County
- Port of Corpus Christi Authority
- San Patricio County
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Texas Division

300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701-3255
Tel (512) 536-5900
Fax (512) 536-5990
texas@fhwa.dot.gov

July 20, 2011

In Reply Refer To:
HB-TX

Mr. Alfredo Armendariz
Regional Administrator, Region 6
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Avenue
Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Dear Dr. Armendariz:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Federal Register* on June 22, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements of various environmental regulations, including the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Civil Rights Act. Pre-scoping coordination (initiated with a letter to your office from TxDOT, dated February 24, 2011) identified Mike Jansky as the primary project contact for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). With this letter, the EPA is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

FHWA also invites the participation of the EPA as a Cooperating Agency in the preparation of the Draft EIS and Final EIS, in accordance with 40 CFR 1501.6 of the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU Cooperating Agencies are similar to Participating Agencies, but have a higher degree of authority, responsibility, and involvement in the environmental review process. As a Cooperating Agency, your special expertise permits you, as requested by the Lead Agency, to develop information and prepare environmental analyses for the EIS. Responsibilities for a Participating Agency include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Again, FHWA is inviting the EPA to serve in both a Cooperating Agency capacity as well as a Participating Agency capacity. Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitations within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining either invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Cooperating and Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to FHWA within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

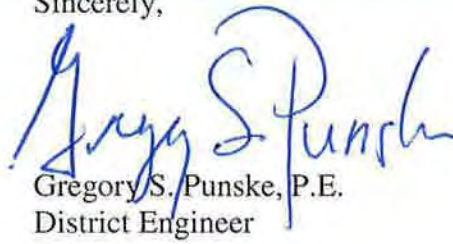
Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Albert Hinojosa, Area Engineer
(512) 536-5967 | albert.hinojosa@dot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Ms. Dianna F. Noble, P.E., TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E.,
TxDOT Corpus Christi District



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Texas Division

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Austin, TX 78701-3255
Tel (512) 536-5900
Fax (512) 536-5990
texas@fhwa.dot.gov

July 20, 2011

In Reply Refer To:
HB-TX

Colonel Christopher W. Sallese
District Engineer and Commanding Officer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Galveston District, P.O. Box 1229
Galveston, TX 77553-1229

Dear Col. Sallese:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Federal Register* on June 22, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, and the potential for the project to affect waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Pre-scoping coordination (initiated with a letter to your office from TxDOT, dated February 24, 2011) identified Dwayne Johnson as the primary project contact for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). With this letter, the USACE is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

FHWA also invites the participation of the USACE as a Cooperating Agency in the preparation of the Draft EIS and Final EIS, in accordance with 40 CFR 1501.6 of the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU Cooperating Agencies are similar to Participating Agencies, but have a higher degree of authority, responsibility, and involvement in the environmental review process. As a Cooperating Agency, your special expertise permits you, as requested by the Lead Agency, to develop information and prepare environmental analyses for the EIS. Responsibilities for a Participating Agency include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Again, FHWA is inviting the USACE to serve in both a Cooperating Agency capacity as well as a Participating Agency capacity. Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitations within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining either invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Cooperating and Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to FHWA within 30 days of receipt of this letter.


Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Albert Hinojosa, Area Engineer
(512) 536-5967 | albert.hinojosa@dot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Ms. Dianna F. Noble, P.E. TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E.,
TxDOT Corpus Christi District



U.S. Department
of Transportation
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texas@fhwa.dot.gov

July 20, 2011

In Reply Refer To:
HB-TX

Mr. Allan Strand
Supervisor, Corpus Christi Ecological Services Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
C/O TAMU-Corpus Christi
6300 Ocean Drive, # 5837
Corpus Christi, TX 78412-5837

Dear Mr. Strand:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Federal Register* on June 22, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements of the Endangered Species Act. Pre-scoping coordination (initiated with a letter to your office from TxDOT, dated February 24, 2011) identified Pat Clements as the primary project contact for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). With this letter, the USFWS is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

FHWA also invites the participation of the USFWS as a Cooperating Agency in the preparation of the Draft EIS and Final EIS, in accordance with 40 CFR 1501.6 of the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU Cooperating Agencies are similar to Participating Agencies, but have a higher degree of authority, responsibility, and involvement in the environmental review process. As a Cooperating Agency, your special expertise permits you, as requested by the Lead Agency, to develop information and prepare environmental analyses for the EIS. Responsibilities for a Participating Agency include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Again, FHWA is inviting the USFWS to serve in both a Cooperating Agency capacity as well as a Participating Agency capacity. Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitations within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining either invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Cooperating and Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to FHWA within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

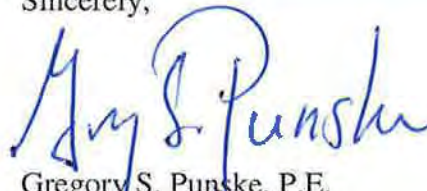
Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Albert Hinojosa, Area Engineer
(512) 536-5967 | albert.hinojosa@dot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gregory S. Punske". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gregory" and last name "Punske" clearly distinguishable.

Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Ms. Dianna F. Noble, P.E. TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E.,
TxDOT Corpus Christi District



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
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Texas Division

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Tel (512) 536-5900
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texas@fhwa.dot.gov

July 20, 2011

In Reply Refer To:
HB-TX

Mr. David Frank,
Commander DPB, Eighth CG District
U.S. Coast Guard, Bridge Section,
500 Poydras Street
New Orleans, LA 70130-3310

Dear Mr. Frank:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Federal Register* on June 22, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements of the General Bridge Act. Pre-scoping coordination (initiated with a letter to your office from TxDOT, dated February 24, 2011) identified you as the primary project contact for the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG). This letter confirms that the USCG will be a Cooperating Agency for this project, as stated in your letter to TxDOT on March 16, 2011. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU Cooperating Agencies are similar to Participating Agencies, but have a higher degree of authority, responsibility, and involvement in the environmental review process. As a Cooperating Agency, your special expertise permits you, as requested by the Lead Agency, to develop information and prepare environmental analyses for the EIS. Responsibilities for a Participating Agency include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that

is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

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3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Cooperating and Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to FHWA within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

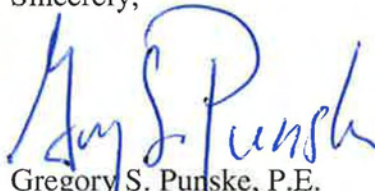
Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Albert Hinojosa, Area Engineer
(512) 536-5967 | albert.hinojosa@dot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Ms. Dianna F. Noble, P.E. TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E.,
TxDOT Corpus Christi District



U.S. Department
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texas@fhwa.dot.gov

July 20, 2011

In Reply Refer To:
HB-TX

Donald W. Gohmert
State Conservationist
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
101 South Main Street
Temple, TX 76501

Dear Mr. Gohmert:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Federal Register* on June 22, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements of the Farmland Protection Policy Act. With this letter, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

FHWA also invites the participation of the NRCS as a Cooperating Agency in the preparation of the Draft EIS and Final EIS, in accordance with 40 CFR 1501.6 of the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU Cooperating Agencies are similar to Participating Agencies, but have a higher degree of authority, responsibility, and involvement in the environmental review process. As a Cooperating Agency, your special expertise permits you, as requested by the Lead Agency, to develop information and prepare environmental analyses for the EIS. Responsibilities for a Participating Agency include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

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3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Again, FHWA is inviting the NRCS to serve in both a Cooperating Agency capacity as well as a Participating Agency capacity. Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitations within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining either invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Cooperating and Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to FHWA within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

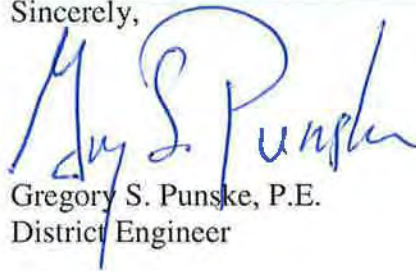
Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Albert Hinojosa, Area Engineer
(512) 536-5967 | albert.hinojosa@dot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gregory S. Punske". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Ms. Dianna F. Noble, P.E. TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E.,
TxDOT Corpus Christi District



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Tel (512) 536-5900
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texas@fhwa.dot.gov

July 21, 2011

In Reply Refer To:
HB-TX

Mr. Louis Mynahonah
Chairman, Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 1220
Anadarko, OK 73005

Dear Mr. Mynahonah:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. With this letter, the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.

2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Albert Hinojosa
Area Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 536-5967, or email him at albert.hinojosa@dot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer

Enclosures: Project Map, NOI and Draft Coordination Plan

Cc: Ms. Dianna F. Noble, Director of Environmental Affairs Division, TxDOT
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Texas Division

300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701-3255
Tel (512) 536-5900
Fax (512) 536-5990
texas@fhwa.dot.gov

July 21, 2011

In Reply Refer To:
HB-TX

Mr. Jimmy Arterberry
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Comanche Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, OK 73502

Dear Mr. Arterberry:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. With this letter, the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

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Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

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- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

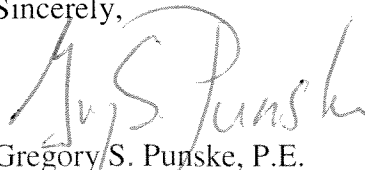
Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Albert Hinojosa
Area Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 536-5967, or email him at albert.hinojosa@dot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer

Enclosures: Project Map, NOI and Draft Coordination Plan

Cc: Ms. Dianna F. Noble, Director of Environmental Affairs Division, TxDOT
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
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Texas Division

300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701-3255
Tel (512) 536-5900
Fax (512) 536-5990
texas@fhwa.dot.gov

July 21, 2011

In Reply Refer To:
HB-TX

Ms. Jame Eskew
Kiowa Indian Tribe of Oklahoma
c/o Kiowa Culture Preservation Authority
P.O. Box 885
Carnegie, OK 73015

Dear Ms. Eskew:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. With this letter, the Kiowa Indian Tribe of Oklahoma is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

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Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

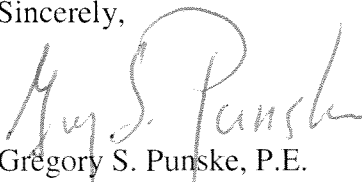
Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Albert Hinojosa
Area Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 536-5967, or email him at albert.hinojosa@dot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer

Enclosures: Project Map, NOI and Draft Coordination Plan

Cc: Ms. Dianna F. Noble, Director of Environmental Affairs Division, TxDOT
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



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**Federal Highway
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Tel (512) 536-5900
Fax (512) 536-5990
texas@fhwa.dot.gov

July 21, 2011

In Reply Refer To:
HB-TX

Mr. Don Patterson
President, Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
1 Rush Buffalo Road
Tonkawa, OK 74653

Dear Mr. Patterson:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. With this letter, the Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.

3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

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- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

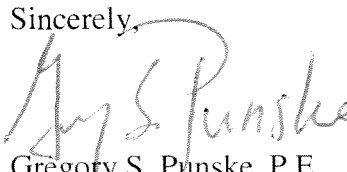
We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Albert Hinojosa
Area Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 536-5967, or email him at albert.hinojosa@dot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer

Enclosures: Project Map, NOI and Draft Coordination Plan

Cc: Ms. Dianna F. Noble, Director of Environmental Affairs Division, TxDOT
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
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Texas Division

300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701-3255
Tel (512) 536-5900
Fax (512) 536-5990
texas@fhwa.dot.gov

July 21, 2011

In Reply Refer To:
HB-TX

Mr. Carleton Naiche-Palmer
President, Mescalero Apache Tribe
c/o Holly Houghten, THPO
P.O. Box 227
Mescalero, NM 88340

Dear Mr. Naiche-Palmer:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. With this letter, the Mescalero Apache Tribe is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

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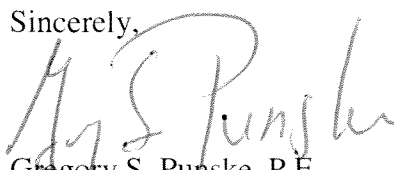
We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

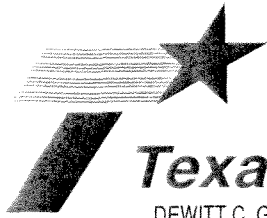
Mr. Albert Hinojosa
Area Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 536-5967, or email him at albert.hinojosa@dot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer

Enclosures: Project Map, NOI and Draft Coordination Plan

Cc: Ms. Dianna F. Noble, Director of Environmental Affairs Division, TxDOT
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



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7/25/11 LP

Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

July 22, 2011

Mr. Mark R. Vickery
Executive Director
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Dear Mr. Vickery:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements of the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act, and as the designated state representative for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Pre-scoping coordination (initiated with a letter to your office from TxDOT, dated February 24, 2011) with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) identified Nina Castillo and Clyde Bohmfalk as the primary project contacts for air quality and water resources, respectively, with your agency. With this letter, the TCEQ is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

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Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
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- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



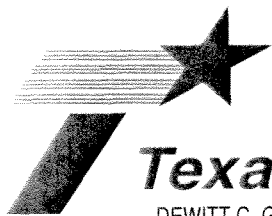
Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Gregory S. Punske, P.E., Federal Highway Administration-Texas Division
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850



7/25/11 lp

Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

July 22, 2011

Mr. Hal Croft
Asset Management Deputy Commissioner
Texas General Land Office
P.O. Box 12873
Austin, TX 78711-2873

Dear Mr. Croft:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements under the Memorandum of Understanding and Memorandum of Agreement between TxDOT and the Texas General Land Office (TGLO). Pre-scoping coordination (initiated with a letter to your office from TxDOT, dated February 24, 2011) with the TGLO identified Amy Nuñez and Jesse Solis as the primary project contacts with your agency. With this letter, the TGLO is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

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- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



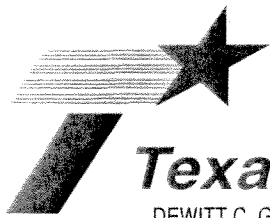
Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Gregory S. Punske, P.E., Federal Highway Administration-Texas Division
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850



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7/25/11 *lp*

Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

July 22, 2011

Mr. Mark Wolfe
Executive Director
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the requirements for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49 USC 303). Pre-scoping coordination (initiated with an email sent from TxDOT to Adrienne Campbell on January 13, 2011) with the Texas Historical Commission (THC) identified Adrienne Campbell and Mark Denton as the primary project contacts for history and archeology, respectively, with your agency. With this letter, the THC is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Gregory S. Punske, P.E., Federal Highway Administration-Texas Division
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850



7/25/11 lp

Texas Department of Transportation

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July 22, 2011

Mr. Carter Smith
Executive Director
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744

Dear Mr. Smith:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between TxDOT and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). Pre-scoping coordination (initiated with a letter to your office from TxDOT, dated February 24, 2011) with the TPWD identified Russell Hooten as the primary project contact with your agency and confirmed that coordination would be undertaken in accordance with the MOU. With this letter, the TPWD is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



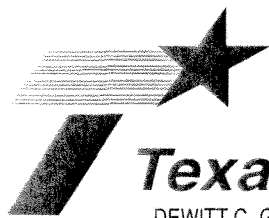
Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Gregory S. Punske, P.E., Federal Highway Administration-Texas Division
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850



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Texas Department of Transportation

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July 22, 2011

Ms. Kitty Henderson
Executive Director
Historic Bridge Foundation
P.O. Box 66245
Austin, TX 78766

Dear Ms. Henderson:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

The Historic Bridge Foundation has been identified as a party that might have an interest in the proposed project due to potential impacts to the historic Harbor Bridge. With this letter, the Historic Bridge Foundation is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Gregory S. Punske, P.E., Federal Highway Administration-Texas Division
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District
Bcc: DFN
Reference: ENV 850



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7/25/11 LP

Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

July 22, 2011

Ms. Helen Young
Deputy Commissioner, Coastal Resources
Texas Coastal Coordination Council
Texas General Land Office
P.O. Box 12873
Austin, TX 78711-2873

Dear Ms. Young:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the potential for the proposed project to affect coastal resources and the Coastal Management Program. Pre-scoping coordination (initiated with a letter to your office from TxDOT, dated February 24, 2011) with the Texas Coastal Coordination Council (TCCC) identified Amy Nuñez as the primary project contact with your agency. With this letter, the TCCC is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 416-3029 | Vicki.Crnich@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



Dianna F. Noble, P.E.
Director of Environmental Affairs Division

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Gregory S. Punske, P.E., Federal Highway Administration-Texas Division
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

Bcc: DFN

Reference: ENV 850



Texas Department of Transportation

1701 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND DRIVE • CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78416 • (361) 808-2300

July 22, 2011

Mr. John P. Buckner
Executive Director
Coastal Bend Council of Governments
P.O. Box 9909
Corpus Christi, TX 78469-9909

Dear Mr. Buckner:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

The Coastal Bend Council of Governments has been identified as a party that might have an interest in the proposed project in order to identify issues relating to member cities, counties, and special districts. With this letter, the Coastal Bend Council of Governments is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

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PRESERVE THE VALUE OF TRANSPORTATION ASSETS

B-111

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- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.


We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, P.E.
Advance Project Development Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416-1324
(361) 808-2378 | Victor.Vourcos@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

John A. Casey, P.E.
District Engineer, Corpus Christi District

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



July 22, 2011

Mr. Tom Niskala
Transportation Planning Director
Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization
5151 Flynn Parkway
Suite 404
Corpus Christi, TX 78411

Dear Mr. Niskala:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

The Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization has been identified as a party that might have an interest in the proposed project in order to identify issues relating to transportation and land use planning, particularly the potential for project-induced growth, planning, and consistency with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, as well as project effects to safety and mobility, system interconnectivity, and minority and low-income populations. With this letter, the Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

THE TEXAS PLAN

REDUCE CONGESTION • ENHANCE SAFETY • EXPAND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY • IMPROVE AIR QUALITY
PRESERVE THE VALUE OF TRANSPORTATION ASSETS

B-113

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, P.E.
Advance Project Development Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416-1324
(361) 808-2378 | Victor.Vourcos@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



John A. Casey, P.E.
District Engineer, Corpus Christi District

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District

July 22, 2011

Mr. Charlie Hicks
Chairman, Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation
One Shoreline Plaza
800 N. Shoreline Boulevard
Suite 1300 South
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Dear Mr. Hicks:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

The Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation (CCREDC) has been identified as a party that might have an interest in the proposed project in order to identify issues relating to economic development in Corpus Christi. With this letter, the CCREDC is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

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B-115

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

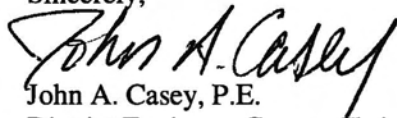
We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, P.E.
Advance Project Development Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416-1324
(361) 808-2378 | Victor.Vourcos@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

John A. Casey, P.E.
District Engineer, Corpus Christi District

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



Texas Department of Transportation

1701 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND DRIVE • CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78416 • (361) 808-2300

July 22, 2011

Mr. Scott Neeley
Chief Executive Officer
Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority
5658 Bear Lane
Corpus Christi, TX 78405

Dear Mr. Neeley:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

The Corpus Christi Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA) has been identified as a party that might have an interest in the proposed project in order to identify issues relating to public transportation in the cities and counties within the RTA. With this letter, the CCRTA is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

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B-117

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.


We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, P.E.
Advance Project Development Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416-1324
(361) 808-2378 | Victor.Vourcos@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

John A. Casey, P.E.
District Engineer, Corpus Christi District

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



Texas Department of Transportation

1701 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND DRIVE • CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78416 • (361) 808-2300

July 22, 2011

Mr. Ronald L. Olson
City Manager
City of Corpus Christi
1201 Leopard Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Dear Mr. Olson:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

The City of Corpus Christi is expected to have an interest in the proposed project in order to aid project planners in identifying potential project effects to areas and services within the city limits and area of extraterritorial jurisdiction. With this letter, the City of Corpus Christi is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

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Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

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B-119

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.


We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, P.E.
Advance Project Development Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416-1324
(361) 808-2378 | Victor.Vourcos@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

John A. Casey, P.E.
District Engineer, Corpus Christi District

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



Texas Department of Transportation

1701 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND DRIVE • CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78416 • (361) 808-2300

July 22, 2011

Mr. Mike Tanner
City Manager
City of Portland
1900 Billy G. Webb Drive
Portland, TX 78374

Dear Mr. Tanner:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

The City of Portland is expected to have an interest in the proposed project in order to aid project planners in identifying issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental effects within the city's jurisdiction. With this letter, the City of Portland is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

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2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

THE TEXAS PLAN

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B-121

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

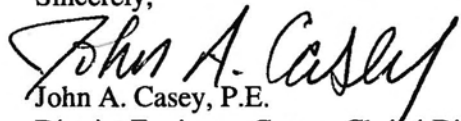
We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, P.E.
Advance Project Development Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416-1324
(361) 808-2378 | Victor.Vourcos@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

John A. Casey, P.E.
District Engineer, Corpus Christi District

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



Texas Department of Transportation

1701 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND DRIVE • CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78416 • (361) 808-2300

July 22, 2011

The Honorable Samuel L. Neal, Jr.
County Judge
Nueces County
901 Leopard Street, Rm. 303
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Dear Judge Neal:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

Nueces County has been identified as a party that might have an interest in the proposed project in order to identify issues related to potential environmental and socio-economic effects within the county's jurisdiction. With this letter, Nueces County is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

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2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

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B-123

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

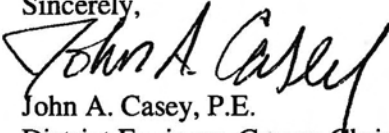
We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, P.E.
Advance Project Development Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416-1324
(361) 808-2378 | Victor.Vourcos@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

John A. Casey, P.E.
District Engineer, Corpus Christi District

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



Texas Department of Transportation

1701 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND DRIVE • CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78416 • (361) 808-2300

July 22, 2011

Mr. Frank C. Brogan, P.E.
Deputy Port Director
Port of Corpus Christi
Engineering, Finance and Administration
222 Power Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Dear Mr. Brogan:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

Your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project in order to identify issues related to the Corpus Christi Ship Channel and Port properties, including shipping, safety, and commerce. Pre-scoping coordination (initiated with a letter to your office from TxDOT, dated February 24, 2011) identified David Krams as the primary project contact for the Port of Corpus Christi. With this letter, the Port of Corpus Christi is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

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B-125

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

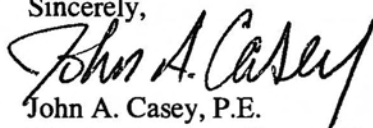
We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, P.E.
Advance Project Development Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416-1324
(361) 808-2378 | Victor.Vourcos@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

John A. Casey, P.E.
District Engineer, Corpus Christi District

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



Texas Department of Transportation

1701 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND DRIVE • CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78416 • (361) 808-2300

July 22, 2011

The Honorable Terry A. Simpson
County Judge
San Patricio County
400 West Sinton Street, #109
Sinton, TX 78387

Dear Judge Simpson:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is reinitiating the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, increase roadway capacity, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to promote, enhance and spur economic development in the area. This project will be coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Texas Register* on July 8, 2011.

San Patricio County has been identified as a party that might have an interest in the proposed project in order to identify issues related to potential environmental and socio-economic effects within the county's jurisdiction. With this letter, San Patricio County is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, responsibilities for Participating Agencies include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the need and purpose, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of alternatives.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to TxDOT in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

THE TEXAS PLAN

REDUCE CONGESTION • ENHANCE SAFETY • EXPAND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY • IMPROVE AIR QUALITY
PRESERVE THE VALUE OF TRANSPORTATION ASSETS

B-127

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Participating Agencies. Please provide your comments to TxDOT within 30 days from receipt of this letter.

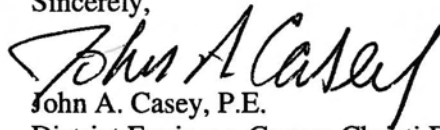
Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on August 9, 2011 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House beginning at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, P.E.
Advance Project Development Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416-1324
(361) 808-2378 | Victor.Vourcos@txdot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,



John A. Casey, P.E.

District Engineer, Corpus Christi District

Enclosures: NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Project Map

Cc: Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales, P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Texas Division
August 17, 2012

300 E. 8th Street, Rm 826
Austin, TX 78701
(Tel) 512-536-5900
(Fax) 512-536-5990
www.fhwa.dot.gov/txdiv

In Reply Refer To:
HB-TX

Mr. Richard Lopez
Field Office Director
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
615 East Housing Street
Suite 347
San Antonio, TX 78205-2001

Dear Mr. Lopez:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), has reinitiated the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095). The project limits are: Beach Avenue at US 181 and Morgan Avenue at SH 286. The objectives of the proposed action, as currently defined, are to improve safety, correct roadway and bridge design deficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, improve connectivity and intermodal transportation, enhance navigation, and to provide transportation infrastructure to support economic development in the area. This project is being coordinated under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI), published in the *Federal Register* on June 22, 2011.

Based on preliminary studies for the project, your agency has been identified as an agency that might have an interest in the proposed project due to the project's potential to impact public housing resources, as well as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) involvement in the Partnership for Sustainable Communities in conjunction with the Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency. With this letter, HUD is formally invited to become a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the EIS. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

FHWA also invites the participation of the HUD as a Cooperating Agency in the preparation of the Draft EIS and Final EIS, in accordance with 40 CFR 1501.6 of the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU Cooperating Agencies are similar to Participating Agencies, but have a higher degree of authority, responsibility, and involvement in the environmental review process. As a Cooperating Agency, your special expertise permits you, as requested by the Joint Lead Agencies, to develop information and prepare environmental analyses for the EIS. Responsibilities for a Participating Agency include identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
2. Provide timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Again, FHWA is inviting HUD to serve in both a Cooperating Agency capacity as well as a Participating Agency capacity. Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitations within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining either invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We also invite you to visit the project website www.ccharborbridgeproject.com for more information on the project, including a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Cooperating and Participating Agencies. If your office should have comments regarding the Draft Coordination Plan, please provide them to FHWA within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

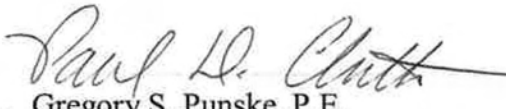
Finally, we are informing you of the upcoming meetings of the project's Technical Advisory Committee and Citizen's Advisory Committee, which are tentatively scheduled to be held on October 18, 2012 at the Oveal Williams Senior Center, 1414 Martin Luther King Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78401. Please consider attending these meetings if you are available.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Albert Hinojosa, Area Engineer
(512) 536-5967 | albert.hinojosa@dot.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,


Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer

Enclosures: NOI, Project Map

cc: Mr. Carlos Swonke TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division
Mr. Lonnie Grygorcyk, P.E. TxDOT Corpus Christi District
Mr. Victor Vourcos, P.E. TxDOT Corpus Christi District
Mr. Christopher Amy TxDOT Corpus Christi District

The following letters were received in response to invitation letters distributed to potential cooperating and participating agencies during Scoping, and include letters from:

- Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority
- City of Portland
- Coastal Bend Council of Governments
- Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization
- City of Corpus Christi
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Texas Historical Commission
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service
- San Patricio County
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- National Park Service



August 8, 2011

Mr. John A. Casey, P.E.
Texas Department of Transportation
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416

CORPUS CHRISTI

AUG 10 2011 **RECEIVED**

DISTRICT **AUG 10 2011**

CRP-TP&D

Dear Mr. Casey:

Thank you for the invitation to serve as a Participating Agency for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed US 181 Harbor Bridge replacement / State Highway 286 improvement project. With this letter, the Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (CCRTA) accepts the invitation of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Our agency contacts for the project will be:

Sharon Montez
Managing Director of Program Management
Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority
5658 Bear Lane
Corpus Christi, TX 78405
361-903-3531
smontez@ccrta.org

Carl Weckenmann
Director of Planning
Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority
5658 Bear Lane
Corpus Christi, TX 78405
361-903-2483
cweckenmann@ccrta.org

The CCRTA welcomes the opportunity to review documents relating to the EIS and provide any input on how the project affects the services of the agency.

Sincerely,

Scott Neeley
Chief Executive Officer



**CITY OF
PORTLAND
TEXAS**

August 3, 2011

Mr. Victor E. Vourcos, PE
Advance Project Development Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, Texas 78416-1324

Re: Highway 181 Harbor Bridge

Dear Mr. Vourcos,

We received and accept the Texas Department of Transportation's invitation to be involved as a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Highway 181 Harbor Bridge.

I look forward to seeing you at the Agency Scoping Meeting on August 9. If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at 777-2943.

Sincerely,

Brian R. DeLatta, P.E.
Director of Public Works and Development

Cc: Mr. Mike Tanner, City of Portland City Manager



Coastal Bend Council of Governments

August 1, 2011

CORPUS CHRISTI

John A. Casey, P.E.
District Engineer
Corpus Christi, District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, Texas 78416-1324

AUG 03 2011

DISTRICT

RECEIVED

AUG 05 2011

CRP-TP&D

Dear Mr. Casey:

In response to your letter of July 22, the Coastal Bend Council of Governments accepts your invitation to participate in the development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed replacement of the Harbor Bridge here in Corpus Christi. The activities you suggest that the CBCOG undertake as its role in this process are agreeable to us. We have limited involvement in activities related to transportation, but we are willing to provide what assistance we can. We have staff that are involved in environmental concerns and will be reviewing the SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan. While comments on this Plan will be provided in the near future, we are responding to your invitation now, so you will know of our interest to participate.

We will send a representative to the Scoping Meeting on August 9. I assume that the information in the Coordination Plan will serve as background for the Scoping Meeting. As you know, we have a representative on the MPO Policy Committee, Bill Hennings, and although he is not CBCOG staff, we feel he can provide input into this process. If it is agreeable to you, we may ask him to participate in this EIS process as part of the CBCOG's involvement.

If any questions arise prior to the Scoping Meeting, we will contact Mr. Vourcos. We look forward to working with TxDOT on this project nad if we can be of any additional assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely,

John P. Buckner
Executive Director
CBCOG



July 25, 2011

John Casey, P.E.
District Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, Texas 78416-1324

CORPUS CHRISTI
JUL 26 2011
DISTRICT

Dear Mr. Casey,

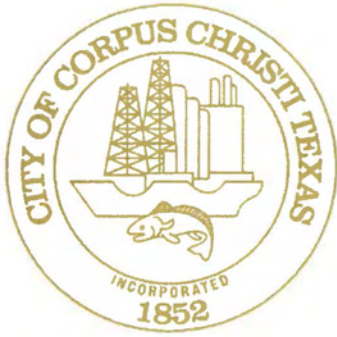
The Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) enthusiastically accepts becoming a Participating Agency with FHWA and TxDOT in the development of the Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed US 181 Harbor Bridge replacement and SH 286 improvements. We will plan to attend the August 9, 2011 Agency Scoping Meeting.

Your project proposal is complimentary with the MPO 2010 – 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan which recognizes that this project can have a major impact on the Corpus Christi economy. We thank you for the opportunity to support this effort.

Sincerely,

Tom Niskala, Transportation Planning Director

Cc: Victor Vourcos, P.E. and Ms. Paula Sales-Evans, P.E.



CORPUS CHRISTI

AUG 04 2011

DISTRICT
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AUG 05 2011

CRP-IF&L

August 2, 2011

Ronald L. Olson
CITY MANAGER

PO Box 9277
Corpus Christi
Texas 78469-9277
Phone 361-826-3220
Fax 361-826-3839
RonO@cctexas.com
www.cctexas.com

John A. Casey, P.E.
District Engineer, Corpus Christi District
Texas Department of Transportation
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416

Dear Mr. Casey:

This letter confirms the City of Corpus Christi's interest in and formal acceptance of TxDOT's invitation to be a Participating Agency in the EIS for the proposed US Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project.

I will be present at the August 9th Agency Scoping Meeting, together with Johnny Perales, Rudy Garza, and Pete Anaya.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Olson
City Manager

cc: Joe Adame, Mayor
Johnny Perales, Assistant City Manager
Rudy Garza, Assistant City Manager
Pete Anaya, Director of Engineering Services



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

AUG 09 2011

RECEIVED ON
AUG 12 2011
TEXAS DIVISION
FHWA

Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer, Texas Division
Federal Highway Administration
300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701-3255

Dear Mr. Punske:

This letter is in response to the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) request for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to be a cooperating agency for the development of a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed U.S. Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway 286 improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas. The EIS will analyze the impacts of the proposed project to the human and natural environment.

The EPA agrees to participate in this proposed project as a cooperating agency. As a cooperating agency, the EPA will:

- provide expertise on NEPA compliance and other subject matter such as wetlands, water quality, air quality, and environmental justice, during EIS planning and development;
- provide timely technical reviews and comments on preliminary documents, reports, analyses, and sections of the Draft and Final EIS;
- participate in meetings and provide information as requested by FHWA, as resources allow;
- provide sources for information or support in the analysis of such information, when known, during preparation of the Draft and Final EIS in areas in which EPA has expertise;
- review and comment on the Draft and Final EIS pursuant to our regulatory responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

The EPA anticipates that a cooperative team approach will streamline the environmental process and result in a high quality EIS. We look forward to continued involvement and cooperation in the EIS development for the Harbor Bridge project.

Re: Cooperating Agency Agreement
with the FHWA

If you have any further questions, please contact John MacFarlane of my staff at
(214) 665-7491 or macfarlane.john@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



John Blevins
Director
Compliance Assurance and
Enforcement Division

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., *Chairman*
Buddy Garcia, *Commissioner*
Carlos Rubinstein, *Commissioner*
Mark R. Vickery, P.G., *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

August 1, 2011

Ms. Vicki Crnich
Project Delivery Management Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 East 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

Re: Participate in the development of the Environmental Impact Statement informal pre-scoping process for the proposed transportation improvements on US 181 in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095)

Dear Ms. Crnich:

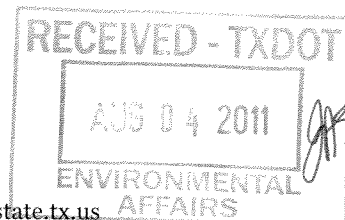
Thank you for the opportunity to become a participating agency on the proposed US 181 project informal pre-scoping process. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality looks forward to providing timely reviews and comments on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents as they become available for the proposed transportation improvements. Ms. Holly Brightwell of our Air Quality Division, Mobile Source Programs Team is our new contact for the Air Quality review.

If you require further assistance on this matter, please contact Ms. Janie Roman at (512) 239-0604 or Ms. Tangela Niemann at (512) 239-3786.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Harrison".

Jim Harrison, Director
Intergovernmental Relations Division



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

August 5, 2011

Dianna Noble, P.E.
Director, Environmental Affairs Division
125 East 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

*Re: Environmental Impact Statement for proposed US 181 Harbor Bridge replacement project, Nueces County, Texas (TxDOT)
CSJ: 0101-06-095*

Dear Ms. Noble:

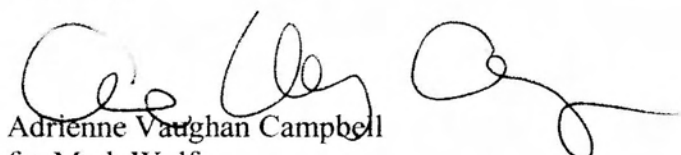
Thank you for your correspondence inviting the Texas Historical Commission (THC) to participate in the development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the above-referenced project.

We are interested in becoming a participating agency for the development of the EIS, with the understanding that the NEPA process is not a substitute for coordination with our agency under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the 2004 Amended Programmatic Agreement between THC, TxDOT, FHWA and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP). We look forward to being included in the process of development of the EIS. The appropriate representative from our agency for the purpose of this study will be Adrienne Campbell, who can be reached at 512/936-7403 or adrienne.campbell@thc.state.tx.us.

We will not be able to send a representative to the upcoming Agency Scoping Meeting on August 9, 2011. Please send materials from the meeting to our representative.

Thank you again for your invitation to participate.

Sincerely,


Adrienne Vaughan Campbell
for Mark Wolfe
State Historic Preservation Officer





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

**Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733**

RECEIVED ON

AUG 05 2011

**TEXAS DIVISION
FHWA**

August 3, 2011

Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer
Texas Division
Federal Highway Administration
300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701-3255

Dear Mr. Punske,

This letter is in response to the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) request for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to review and provide comments on the Draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for the proposed Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas. The draft coordination plan will facilitate and document the lead agencies' structured interaction with the public and agencies and is meant to promote an efficient and streamlined process for the environmental review process for the proposed project.

We have reviewed the draft coordination plan and provide these comments:

2.0 Project History

A more detailed explanation of the process and methodology by which the four preliminary corridors were developed is needed. This information can be provided in the plan or the plan should incorporate by reference the 2001 Feasibility Study.

3.1 Alternatives

This section identifies and describes the four build alternatives previously developed in the 2001 Feasibility Study. Is it in the realm of this coordination plan and scoping effort to develop additional preliminary alternatives or is the alternatives analysis limited to the previously described corridors?

4.1 Draft Need - Roadway and Structure Deficiencies

Under *High Maintenance Costs*, it would be beneficial to include the annual maintenance costs and activities to support the need.

Under *Roadway Capacity Constraints*, the term weaving should be explained in layman's terms so the average reader will understand.

5.0 Agency Roles and Responsibilities – Table 5.0-1

The EPA's responsibilities should include water quality and Section 404 CWA compliance.

8.0 Detailed Project History and Future Actions

Number 54, Anticipated 2017, states that TxDOT will obtain necessary permits, licenses, or approvals after ROD. As the Corps is likely to be a cooperating agency, a NEPA/404 merger agreement could be investigated to streamline the permitting process so the permit could be issued with the ROD.

We look forward to continued involvement and cooperation in the EIS development for the Harbor Bridge project. If you have any further questions, please contact John MacFarlane at 214-665-7491 or macfarlane.john@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rhonda Smith', followed by a smaller, less legible signature.

Rhonda Smith
Chief, Office of Planning and
Coordination

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
101 South Main
Temple, TX 76501-7602

RECEIVED ON
AUG 05 2011
TEXAS DIVISION
FHWA

August 2, 2011

Mr. Gregory S. Punske, P.E.
District Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701-3255

Dear Mr. Punske:

We have reviewed the project information pertaining to the proposed United States (US) Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 Crosstown Expressway improvement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ 0101-06-095).

This project should have no significant adverse impact on the environment or natural resources in the area. We do not require any permits, easements, or approvals for activities such as this.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposed project.

Note: Future correspondence should be addressed to Salvador Salinas, State Conservationist. Donald W. Gohmert is retired.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Salvador Salinas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

SALVADOR SALINAS
State Conservationist

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



Terry Simpson

County Judge
Room 109
400 West. Sinton St. Rm. 109
Sinton, Texas 78387
Office: 361/364-9301

REF

AUG 05 2011

CRP-TP&D

1 August 2011

CORPUS CHRISTI

John A. Casey, P.E.
District Engineer, Corpus Christi District
1701 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78416

AUG 03 2011

DISTRICT

Dear Mr. Casey:

San Patricio County would like to be a Participating Agency with Federal Highway Administration and Texas Department of Transportation in the development of the Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed US Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement/State Highway 286 (Crosstown Expressway) improvement project in Corpus Christi, Texas. In keeping with this commitment, I plan to attend the Agency Scoping Meeting on August 9th at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office Training Center beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Sincerely,

Terry Simpson
San Patricio County Judge



OCT 11 2012

Mr. Gregory S. Punske, P. E.
District Engineer
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highways Administration
300 E. 8th Street Room 826
Austin, Texas 78701

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
San Antonio Field Office, Region VI
Office of the Field Office Director
Hipolito Garcia Federal Building
615 E. Houston, Suite 347
San Antonio, Texas 78205-2001
Telephone: (210) 475-6806 Fax: (210) 472-6804
www.hud.gov www.espanol.hud.gov

RECEIVED ON
OCT 12 2012
TEXAS DIVISION
FHWA

Reference: Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Proposed U.S. Highway 181 Harbor Bridge Replacement/State Highway (SH) 286 (Crosstown Expressway) Improvement Project

Dear Mr. Punske:

I would like to thank you for your letter dated August 17, 2012 inviting the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to participate in the development of the EIS for this project. HUD does have a substantial interest in this project because of its potential impacts on HUD-assisted public housing and HUD insured multifamily housing facilities located in this area. We are also interested due to our involvement in the Partnership for Sustainable Communities with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

I appreciate DOT's willingness to include HUD in this process and we accept your invitation to serve in the capacity of Participating and Cooperating Agency. Our interest includes participation in public meetings and in commenting on scoping reports and draft and final EIS documents. Barbara R. Britton, HUD's Regional Environmental Officer, located in the Fort Worth Regional Office, will serve as the point of contact for this effort and will coordinate involvement of essential HUD program staff. She can be reached by phone at 817-978-5982 or by email at Barbara.R.Britton@hud.gov. Her mailing address is 801 Cherry Street, Unit 45, Suite 2500, Fort Worth, Texas 76102.

Again I thank you for including HUD in your list of interested parties for the EIS for this project. We very much look forward to working with you. If I can be of any further service please contact me at (210) 475-6806.

Sincerely,

Richard Lopez
Field Office Director

cc: David Pohler, Public Housing
Gretchen Marchand, Multifamily Housing
Elva Garcia, Community Planning and Development



United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

Midwest Region
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-4226



48-CTY-1550-80-01(MWR-P/G)

26 OCT 2011

Mr. Albert Hinojosa
Area Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Hinojosa:

Reference is made to Mr. Gregory Punske's letter of October 14 formally inviting the National Park Service (NPS) to become a Participating Agency and a Cooperating Agency with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to assist in the development of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the US Highway 181 Harbor Bridge replacement project in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (CSJ0101-06-095).

The NPS declines the invitation as a Cooperating Agency. We are unable to participate during scoping and/or throughout the preparation of the analysis and the documentation as necessary to meet process milestones.

The NPS has assisted the city of Corpus Christi with Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) program grants for two parks in the proposed project area. They are T.C. Ayers Park and Ben Garza Park. Park and recreation sites rehabilitated through the UPARR program are protected under Section 1010 of the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978, as amended, Public Law 95-625.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Harbor Bridge replacement project and look forward to working with the FHWA, TX DOT and the city of Corpus Christi as a Participating Agency.

Any questions or correspondence you have may be directed to me at Roger Knowlton, Midwest Regional Office, National Park Service, 601 Riverfront Drive, Omaha, Nebraska 68102, telephone 402-661-1558, fax 402-661-1982 and by email at Roger_Knowlton@nps.gov.



Sincerely,



Roger A. Knowlton
Outdoor Recreation Planner
Midwest Region

cc:

Michael Morris, Director, Parks & Recreation Department, P.O. Box 9277, Corpus Christi,
Texas 78469

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MIDWEST REGION
601 RIVERFRONT DRIVE
OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68102
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



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Mailed
US F

Mr. Albert Hinojosa
Area Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, Texas 78701

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OCT 31 2011
TEXAS DIVISION
FHWA

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